Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-88-141
Friday
22 July 1988

Daily Report
Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-88-141 *22 July 1988*

CONTENTS

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

22 July Middle East and South Asia Review 1

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Inter-Arab Affairs

10 States Agree on 'Urgent' Meeting on Camps *[INA]* 3

Islamic Affairs

ICO Statement on Iranian Acceptance of 598 *[SPA]* 3

Palestinian Affairs

Fatah Communique Issued on Situation in Lebanon *[Algiers VOP]* 3
Shaykh al-'Alami on Defense of Al-Aqsa Mosque *[Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio]* 8

ARAB AFRICA

Algeria

PLO's Qaddumi, Delegation Brief Officials 9

Chad

Opposition Group Withholds Support From Goukouni *[Paris]* 9

Egypt

Butrus Ghali Leaves on 1-Week Visit to Moscow 9
Al-Mahjub on USSR Ties, Jewish Immigration 9
Sudanese Chief of Staff Departs Cairo 21 Jul 10
Djibouti Foreign Minister Arrives 20 Jul 10
Meets 'Abd al-Majid 10
Comments on Talks 10
Chadian Foreign Minister on Talks, Libya 10
Received by Sidqi 11
Departs for Home 11
Mubarak Receives Sao Tome Foreign Minister 11
Joint Communique Issued 11
Minister Departs 22 Jul 11
NPUG Leader on 'Egypt's Revolution' Organization *[Kuwait AL-QABAS 20 Jul]* 12
Briefs 14
Benin Ambassador Nominated 14

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Speaks to Saddam on Ending War 14
Al-Qadhdhafi Speaks to Khamene'i on War 14
Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Outgoing Hungarian Envoy 14
Algerian Minister Ends Visit 20 Jul 14
Cooperation Protocol Signed With Malta 14
Delegation Returns From Italian Reparation Talks 15
UN Delegate Condemns U.S. for Downing Airbus 15
Briefs 15
Consular Agreement With DPRK 15

Sudan

Al-Mahdi Receives Ethiopian Foreign Minister 15
Justice Minister on State of Emergency Extension 16
23 'Outlaws' Surrender to Armed Forces 16
SPLA Camp Captured, Children Discovered 16
Islamic Front Figure Interviewed on Issues *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 18 Jul]* 16
Briefs 17
Defense Agreement With Egypt 17

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Kuwait

Prime Minister Thanks President Reagan 18
ARAB TIMES Views Iran's 'Bold' Decision *[20 Jul]* 18

PDRY

Briefs 18
Departing Cuban Envoy 18

United Arab Emirates

Further on Zayid-'Arafat 21 Jul Meeting 19
'Arafat Leaves 21 Jul 19
Shaykh Zayid Receives Egyptian Economy Minister 19
Mustafa Departs 22 Jul 19
Dubayy Paper Urges U.S. Naval Withdrawal *[Beijing XINHUA]* 19

Yemen Arab Republic

'Arafat Arrives in Sanaa, Makes Statement 20
President Salih Inaugurates Parliament 17 Jul 20
Salih Elected for Second Term 21

IRAQ

President Affirms Stance on 598 to Al-Qadhdhafi 23
Presides Over Joint Meeting 23
UN Envoy Says Iran Focuses Only on Cease-Fire 23
INA Cites AL-THAWRAH on Resolution 598 23
Armed Forces Command Issues Communique No 3,268 24

ISRAEL

More on Unrest, Related Incidents in Territories 25
'Sharp Decline' in Disturbances 25
2 Killed, 5 Wounded in Nabulus 25
Riots Said Under Control 25
50 Arabs Detained 25
Curfews in West Bank, Gaza 25
3d Casualty, More Wounded 26
2 Detained for Arson 26
Settler Sustains Head Injury 26
New Commander of IDF Forces in Gaza Strip Named 26
Arab Religious Leaders Oppose Excavations 26
Commander Assesses Iraqi Air Force Capability 27
Egypt's Mubarak Sends Message to Shamir, Peres *[HADASHOT 22 Jul]* 27
Egypt's Badawi Discloses Missed Chances on Tabah *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 21 Jul]* 27
IDF Patrol Stoned in Rafah; Protest Made to Egypt *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 21 Jul]* 28
Herzog Sends Messages to Mubarak, Muslim Leaders 28
Jordan Said Banning Entry of West Bank Youths *[AL-TALI'AH 21 Jul]* 28

Reportage on Visit of German State Minister 28
Discusses Trade Protocols 28
Ends Visit 29
Further Reportage on Visit by Hungary's Szabo 29
Meets With Shamir 29
Confers With Peres 29
Cabinet Secretary Departs for Poland, Hungary 29
Poll Shows Equal Support for Labor, Likud *[DAVAR 17 Jul]* 29
HADASH Submits No-Confidence Over Exercises 30
New Regulations Creating Arab 'Resentment' 30
Commentator Sees Emerging Palestinian Leadership *['AL HAMISHMAR 21 Jul]* 30

LEBANON

Waite Reported in Beirut Under Iranian Guard *[VOL]* 32
AL-ITTIHAD Cited on Release of U.S. Hostage *[WAM]* 32
Car Bomb Explodes in West Beirut; Casualties 32
Near Syrian Roadblock *[RFL]* 32
Details Provided *[VOP]* 32
Explosion Injures 'Number' of Israeli Soldiers 32
5,000 Shi'ites Demonstrate Over Mecca Incident *[VOL]* 32
Amal-Palestinian Clashes Reported Near Sidon *[RFL]* 33
Birri Says 200 Falasha Jews Settled in South 33

SYRIA

3 Officials To Supervise Lebanese Elections *[WAKH]* 34
President Issues 1988 General State Budget 34
Damascus TV on Armed Forces Plot Against Saddam 34
Radio Cites AL-BA'TH on Fate of Iraqi Regime 34
Arabs Urged To Exert 'Influence' on U.S. 34

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan

Resistance Forces, Government Clashes Reported 36
Regime Suffers 'Heavy' Losses *[Beijing XINHUA]* 36
Mortars Fired at Jalalabad 36
Mujahidin Capture New Positions *[Islamabad]* 36
9 'Extremists' Killed 36
Protest Note No 55 Handed to UNGOMAP 36
Minister Wakil Sends Protest Message to UN 36
Najibullah Outlines Nation's Health Care Status 37
Najibullah Praises Zabol Province Citizens 38
Creation of New Province Approved by Najibullah 39
Pashtun Leader Khan Departs After Visit 39
Council of Ministers Meets on Socioeconomic Plan 39
Iran's Acceptance of 598 Termed 'Positive' 39
Najmuddin Kawiani Departs for Cuban Ceremony 40
Italy Pledges Reconstruction Aid for Refugees *[Beijing XINHUA]* 40
U.S., Pakistan Support of 'Terrorists' Criticized 40
'Extremist Opposition' Accused of Terror 41

Bangladesh

Iraqi Planning Minister Continues Dhaka Visit 41
Leads Delegation to Meetings *[INA]* 41
Meets With Moudud Ahmed *[INA]* 41
Signs Economic Agreement 42
Pakistani Finance Minister Arrives in Dhaka 42

India

Punjab, Haryana Police To Jointly Fight Terrorism 42
14 Killed in 'Terrorist' Violence in Punjab 42
INSAT-1C Launched From French Guiana 42
Solar Panels, Antenna Deployed 43
Defense Team To Oversee Guided Missile Program *[AFP]* 43
CPI General Secretary Comments on Soviet Reforms *[PATRIOT 15 Jul]* 44
Briefs 46
Soviet Electric Project 46

Iran

Khamene'i Delivers Friday Prayers Sermons 46
Khomeyni Says Nation Seeks 'Lasting Peace' 47
IRGC Commander Reza'i on Supporting UN Resolution 47
Further on Reza'i Remarks 47
Gen Shahbazi Cables Support Message to Khomeyni 48
USSR's Vorontsov Continues Visit to Tehran 48
Concludes Visit, Departs 49
Foreign Ministry on UN Airbus Resolution 49
Karrubi Addresses Rally on Mecca Anniversary 50
Ceremonies Mark Anniversary of Mecca 'Attack' 51
Tehran Notes Slogans of Mecca Pilgrims 52
Report on Amrollahi's News Conference on Bushehr 52
Iraqi, U.S. Lack of 'Positive' Response Noted 53
Special Equipment Convoy Leaves for Fronts 53
Combat Operations in War With Iraq Continue 53
Communique No 3,270 53
IRGC Issues Communique 54
Iraq Launches New Attacks 54
Iraq Occupies 3 Border Towns 54
Iraq Chemically Bombs Towns 54
Iraqis Occupy Qasr-e Shirin 54
100 Tanks, APC's Destroyed 55
Iraqi Aircraft Overfly Hamadan 55
Khomeyni Told Regime in Danger of Collapse *[Flag of Freedom Radio]* 55
Feda'i-ye Khalq Statement on Proposed Cease-Fire *[Radio of the Iranian Toilers]* 55

Nepal

Banned Party Leader, 150 Activists Released *[AFP]* 56

Pakistan

Government To Hold Elections on Non-Party Basis *[AFP]* 57
President Explains Decision 57
President To Select Premier From Assembly 58
Election Commission Meets To Fix Priorities 58
Ordinance Issued To Delimit Constituencies 58
Delhi Notes 'Hostile Response' To Announcement 58
Shi'ite Scholar Issues Statement on Hajj *[Tehran]* 58
Defense Minister Speaks to Senate on Indian Arms 58
JANG Urges Unity Against India in Kashmir *[13 Jul]* 59
Foreign Minister To Depart for U.S., USSR 60

Sri Lanka

4 Killed, 12 Hurt in Hotel Bomb Explosion 60
'Terrorist' Activities Roundup Reported 60

22 July Middle East and South Asia Review

LD2207125588 [Editorial Report]

Lebanon

Two Explosions in Beirut—Two persons were killed and "scores" injured in an explosion 22 July in West Beirut, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. A booby-trapped car blew up "only meters" from a Syrian roadblock in the Cola area, according to clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. Another explosion occurred in the same area "only minutes" after the first, the radio added.

Reports on Hostages—A "prominent Lebanese religious source" cited by AL-ITTIHAD said there will be a "big surprise" soon concerning foreign hostages, WAM reported. The paper said "intensive contacts" have brought about an agreement to release a U.S. hostage "in the very near future." The source said the release comes in light of Iran's acceptance of UN Resolution No 598 and will be the "starting point for defining new Iranian-U.S. relations," WAM added.

The Bonn-based Establishment for Research on Terrorism stated that British hostage Terry Waite and German hostage Rudolf Cordes are being held in Beirut's southern suburbs under Iranian guard, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. Waite is being held in a school "close to" the Burj al-Barajinah camp and was provided with an exercise bicycle to alleviate "blood circulation problems," the statement noted. Cordes is being detained in a five-story building in Harat Hurayk and is guarded by 25 Iranians, the statement added.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Khomeyni Audience—Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni received Mohsen Reza'i, IRCG commander in chief, who delivered a report on the situation at the war fronts, Tehran radio reported. Khomeyni reiterated Iran's interest in a "lasting peace" within the framework of Resolution 598. He said Iran wants to prove to the world that Iraq does not "believe in" international forums and added that Iran will fight "until Iraq accepts the resolution."

Reza'i sent a message to Khomeyni 21 July saying he and his troops "seriously support" the decision to move for a cease-fire, according to Tehran radio. He said the IRGC will "act in accordance" with Khomeyni's instruction. The chief of the Iranian Armed Forces Joint Staff also cabled Khomeyni and said the Armed Forces will remain Iran's "strong backbone" and implement "strategies drawn up by the alert leadership," the radio noted.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Remarks—In a speech reported by Tehran radio, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani addressed the Majlis on "various aspects" of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's 20 July message to the nation. Hashemi-Rafsanjani described the message as marked by "awareness, wisdom, and competence." He hailed Khomeyni's "brave" decision to accept Resolution 598 but said the people need "time to comprehend" its nature as it appears "not to be in line" with the country's "earlier direction." The world is "reverberating" because of the message, which "clearly disarmed" Iran's enemies, he said.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani called on the Majlis deputies "without wondering about ifs and buts" to fulfill their duties to save society from "differences, crisis, and turmoil." The effort by some deputies to turn the "clauses" of Khomeyni's message into laws is a "befitting task" but one that "requires careful study," Hashemi-Rafsanjani stated. He reemphasized Khomeyni's call for continued vigilance on the war fronts because the "slightest carelessness or weakness" will be very dangerous.

Iraqi Position—The Revolutionary Command Council affirmed the need for Iran to respond to Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz' letter to the UN secretary general, which calls for direct negotiations for a "comprehensive" peace agreement, Baghdad radio reported. Iraq's representative to the UN said Iran "has begun to procrastinate" and is "determined to focus on only the issue of a cease-fire," INA reported. He claimed that Iraq has "many clear-cut indications" of Iran's failure "to display an equal care" for the resolution's other articles.

Military Situation—Iraqi troops crossed the western border on 22 July and occupied three towns by "resorting to extensive use" of chemical weapons, IRNA said. Iraqi planes also shelled villages in Sar Dasht, killing a civilian, IRNA added. An Iraqi military communique carried by Baghdad radio announced that Iraq's V Corps continued attacks against Iranian positions and "liberated" several mountain peaks. An IRGC Central Headquarters communique reported by IRNA said Iranian troops "smashed" two Iraqi offensives in the western sector.

Libyan Initiative—Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi telephoned Saddam Husayn and asked for "explanations and clarifications" concerning Iraq's continued fighting, Tripoli radio reported. Al-Qadhdhafi also had a conversation with President 'Ali Khamene'i about Iran's position and Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati will visit Tripoli to explain the details, JANA disclosed.

Reaction Continues—The UAE president cabled congratulations to both countries on the "significant step" taken toward ending the conflict, WAM noted. Iran's acceptance of Resolution 598 "paves the way" for a cease-fire, according to an Arab League statement carried by SPA. An Afghan Foreign Ministry spokesman said the positive results of a cease-fire will play an important role in the region, BAKHTAR said.

Iran

UN Airbus Resolution—The UN Security Council's resolution on the Iranian Airbus issue shows "clear signs" of U.S. influence, according to a Foreign Ministry statement cited by Tehran radio. By issuing a resolution with "little content," the Security Council demonstrated "how weak it is" to combat "influence exercised by a superpower" and the "distance it stands from justice," the statement contended.

Vorontsov Visit—President Khamene'i received visiting USSR First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov, who said prospects for Tehran-Moscow relations are "bright," IRNA reported. They discussed the war and the U.S. downing of an Iranian Airbus, the report stated. Vorontsov also met with Foreign Minister Velayati, IRNA added.

Hajj Rally—"Thousands" of Tehran residents gathered at a rally to commemorate the memory of those killed in last year's Mecca riots, IRNA stated. The crowd demanded the "liberation" of Mecca and the "downfall" of King Fahd and the Saudi regime, IRNA added. Tehran radio carried a speech delivered at the rally by Mehdi Karrubi, Khomeyni's pilgrimmage representative, who extolled the hajj as a platform from which to export the Islamic revolution.

Commenting on Khomeyni's remarks on Iran's acceptance of Resolution 598, Karrubi said Iran is "aware of its responsibility" but should maintain its "readiness and presence" because "there will always be animosity and hatred toward us." Karrubi reminded the crowd that the United States is "our real enemy" and said the Iranian people "will take revenge" for U.S. "repression."

New Cabinet List—Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi submitted his cabinet list to the Majlis, according to IRNA. The 21-minister list contains "no new faces," IRNA added. The construction jihad minister submitted his resignation 21 July, IRNA said, bringing to three the number of ministries that "remained vacant."

Palestinian Affairs

"Call No. 22" by the Unified National Leadership of the Uprising on the need for "unity of ranks" during the 'Id al-Adha celebrations was broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the PLO radio. The call announced activities to be held during the celebrations, including "mass processions" and general strikes.

Ten "Arab states" have agreed to the PLO's request to convene an extraordinary Arab League Council meeting at the foreign ministers level to discuss the situation in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon, INA disclosed.

Pakistan

President Ziaul Haq has announced that the 16 November national and provincial assembly elections will be held on a non-party basis, Islamabad radio reported. Zia described his decision as in the "supreme national interest."

Although the parties will be "allowed to function completely" in the campaign, candidates will be elected "on the basis of their individual qualifications" and assigned symbols according to existing laws, Zia added. Zia said he will nominate as prime minister an elected member of the National Assembly, Islamabad's English service reported.

Inter-Arab Affairs

10 States Agree on 'Urgent' Meeting on Camps

JN2107142088 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1325 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Tunis, 21 Jul (INA)—Ten Arab countries have agreed on the PLO request to convene an extraordinary meeting of the Arab League Council at the foreign minister level.

Arab League sources told an INA correspondent here that these countries are Iraq, Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria, Libya, the YAR, the PDRY, Palestine, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia.

The meeting, whose date and venue have not yet been set, will discuss the situation in the Palestinian camps in Beirut, the Palestinian presence in Lebanon, and the escalation in the aggression of the Syrian regime and the Zionist entity against the Palestinian camps.

Islamic Affairs

ICO Statement on Iranian Acceptance of 598

LD2107195988 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1830 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Jeddah, 21 Jul (SPA)—The Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] describes Iran's acceptance of UN Security Council Resolution 598, which calls for an end to the Iraq-Iran war, as a move paving the way for a cease-fire between the two countries.

In a statement issued today by its secretary general, Shariffudin Pirzada, the organization expresses its hope to see the implementation of an immediate cease-fire.

The organization also calls on the two sides to stop fighting on all fronts, and announce a cease-fire as a prelude to a withdrawal to the international borders and the start of negotiations for establishing a lasting and comprehensive peace between Iran and Iraq in implementation of Resolution 598.

Palestinian Affairs

Fatah Communique Issued on Situation in Lebanon

LD2107103088 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 20 Jul 88

["Text" of communique issued by the Revolutionary Council of the Palestine National Liberation Front, Fatah, at the conclusion of the emergency session "recently" held in Tunis]

[Text] The communique says: During this session, the Council considered the political position [words indistinct] escalation of the blessed uprising of our people in the occupied homeland. It also considered the challenges confronting this uprising, beginning with the continuation and consolidation of the Zionist iron fist policy, on to the U.S. political attempts at aborting and containing the blessed uprising, and ending with the criminal attacks on and destruction of our Palestinian camps in Beirut.

Moreover, there are the flagrant threats to continue these attacks against our camps in Sidon and Tyre through a joint operation between Israel and its hirelings in the south of Lebanon and the Arab forces [the Syrians] and their hirelings in the north of Lebanon.

In confronting all these developments, the Revolutionary Council of the Fatah Movement considers it its duty to clarify the realities of the situation to our struggling Palestinian masses and to the masses of our Arab nation, as well as to the entire world.

This is because what is happening against our Palestinian camps in Lebanon is strongly tied to all of the mutifaceted plans and schemes aimed at encircling the uprising of our people and hitting at its achievements and at the gains of the Palestinian people accomplished through its struggle and through the blood of its martyrs, including the attempt to attain hegemony over the independent national Palestinian decision by turning the PLO into a paper in the hands of the Arab policy being implemented in Lebanon, with its particular objectives.

It has become clear that the continuing thrust of the uprising has decisively defeated the Zionist iron fist policy, which now stands helpless in the face of the struggle of our people, in addition to the studied and firm progress of the comprehensive popular struggle which is led by the PLO and the operational objectives being accomplished by the Unified National Leadership of the Uprising, which embodies the national unity of the masses of our people. This leadership constitutes the organic extension of the PLO in the main arena of the conflict in the occupied homeland.

The blessed uprising of our people has managed to reimpose the Palestinian issue on world attention as a living and vital issue which deserves to be given priority in any serious international treatment of the Middle East problem.

An international consensus has now been formed over the necessity of a just solution of the Palestinian people. This has come in the context of the formation of the clear and precise Arab stand at the Algiers uprising summit, which unequivocally emphasized the renewal of Arab commitment to these rights, agreed to provide all kinds of support and assistance to the comprehensive uprising, and emphasized the need for a comprehensive and just solution through an effective international conference under the auspices of the United Nations and with the participation of the permanent members of the Security Council and all sides to the conflict in the region including the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, on an equal footing and with the same rights as the other sides.

The war of the camps in Beirut, in which the Arab deterrent command in Lebanon participated, supervising its implementation over 5 years, sometimes with Lebanese masks and sometimes with Palestinian masks, will not be able to continue in the face of what has been achieved by the uprising.

Thus, it was announced that the war of the camps will be stopped as a gift to the uprising, but we in the Palestinian revolution rejected the special proviso for the destruction of the camps which came in Shultz's agreement with the head of the Arab regime over Lebanon as one of the most important U.S. conditions for giving the leadership of this Arab regime the role of the Arabizer [as heard] in implementing the U.S.-Zionist plan for putting out the Palestinian revolution and eliminating the Palestinian civil existence in Lebanon by destroying the camps of our families and resettling them in other places in north Lebanon. Such a deed would pave the way for the resettlement operation which was clearly declared by Shultz during his recent shuttle tours.

In the meantime, work was in progress to implement another Zionist plan which targets the PLO, its leadership, and the uprising of our people in the occupied territory. The assassination of the model leader Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] was a part of this plan.

They were under the illusion his assassination would lead to the assassination of the uprising itself. However, the deep and comprehensive awareness of the people of the uprising and its solid struggle enabled it to practice escalation with a greater and more comprehensive struggle.

It is painful for us to see the Arab leadership, as manifested in Lebanon, completing this plan and achieving a part of its aims by destroying and massacring the Shatilah and Burj al-Barajinah camps. The bombing was not only aimed at the two camps and their residents but also at the resolutions of the Algiers uprising summit and the uprising in our occupied territory itself.

When the invitation came from the Syrian Arab leadership to bury the body of the martyr Abu Jihad in Damascus, the Palestinian leadership agreed to it by a majority. Indeed, a meeting described as a thaw which would pave the way for a serious consideration to resume normal relations with Syria took place. The [?PLO] delegation left Damascus with the understanding it would return to Damascus for another meeting. Damascus was then told of the delegation that would visit it, but Damascus requested a postponement, so the meeting has not yet taken place.

Indeed, the Palestinian delegation had hardly left Damascus following the funeral ceremony for the brother martyr Abu Jihad and following the meeting between Al-Asad, Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], and the brother members of [words indistinct] and the collective arrest of all Palestinian cadres [?outside] these camps.

During this phase, first Brother Abu 'Ammar sent letters to all the officials of fraternal, friendly [words indistinct] asking them to intervene to stop the new phase of the war of the camps being implemented by the Arab leadership [words indistinct].

Second, Brother Yasir 'Arafat summoned Arab, Muslim, friendly and allied ambassadors several times and explained to them the Arab situation and the danger facing the camps so they could convey these to their governments.

Third, Brother Abu 'Ammar headed a Palestinian delegation to Algeria and Libya, explaining to them the danger of the situation and asking them to intervene to stop this plan, which is part of the Zionist-U.S. plan and targets the morale of the people of the uprising.

At the same time, contacts were made with King Fahd, who made attempts in this direction. Moreover, two messages were sent to the Soviet leadership with the same purpose and efforts were made to stop these masscres against the Palestinian camps. We thank them for that.

Fourth, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the Kuwaiti foreign minister, made a visit to Damascus, Baghdad, and Amman as a representative of all the Gulf Cooperation Council states with the aim of stopping the attack against the Burj al-Barajinah camp.

Fifth, following the fall of the Shatila camp, these contacts continued with the aim of stopping the extension of the conspiracy to Burj al-Barajinah camp. The brother Algerians sent a medical team to the camp. Following their arrival, Arab artillery bombed the camp's hospital; this led all doctors to leave and the wounded were left in the streets under the ruins and without any help.

Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi also sent a number of Libyan officers in Beirut to the camp as a barrier to stop the fighting. However, the Arab intelligence service defeated these attempts, a fact that impelled the Libyan leadership to announce the withdrawal of the Libyan officers. Libya also announced that it does not wish to be a party to this large and multilateral conspiracy, the price of which is being paid by Palestinian children.

Sixth, Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali sent a delegation to Damascus consisting of Dr Hamed Karoui, director of the Democratic Constitutional Rally, and Taieb Sahbani, secretary of state at the Foreign Ministry, to stop the destruction to which the Palestinian camps were being exposed. Moreover, another Tunisian delegation was sent to Libya to unify efforts toward the same aim.

The aim of all these efforts and contacts was to arrive at an agreement with the Arab leadership over the camps, away from the brutal operations of destruction and Palestinian bloodshed. However, all these attempts failed, which compelled the Executive Committee to call the Arab ministerial committee, which was entrusted

with the security of the camps by a previous decision of the Arab League, to meet with the hope of arriving at a correct position. Nevertheless, this was also in vain.

The matter did not stop there, however, for the renegades began to direct their threats toward Sidon and they began to instruct their forces to target their artillery and equipment at the Al-Kharrub region, at the northern passages to Sidon, and the eastern heights overlooking it. Dangerous movements also began to be directed at our camps in the Tyre region with the aim of closing on them to complete the implementation of the Zionist-U.S. plan to repatriate them.

The Arab leadership that is manifested in Lebanon excuses its activities and military interventions in Lebanon generally, and in the Beirut region especially, with the claim it aims at the creation of a climate that would enable the calm election of the Lebanese president in accordance with the U.S.-Arab agreement. The first paragraph of this agreement published by the AL-QABAS newspaper stipulates the necessity of holding the presidential elections in Lebanon at their constitutional time and of preventing any activities by the party of fanatical forces in the Lebanese arena to obstruct these elections.

The Revolutionary Council of the Fatah Movement rejects that the Palestinian existence—either civil or armed—even at the height of its strength in Lebanon, had at any time participated in these Lebanese elections. The Arab leadership is the first to know this fact; the election of President Sarkis is good evidence of this, for we provided all security facilities to implement the elections.

Thus, the question remains: Why does the Arab leadership carry out these tasks? To answer this question, the following points about the official position of this Arab leadership emerged to the Revolutionary Council of the Fatah Movement:

First, in 1976 the Arab deterrent force entered Lebanon under the pretext of protecting the Palestinian resistance in Lebanon and of protecting and guaranteeing the unity, integrity, and stability of Lebanon and its people.

The entry of the Arab army turned into combating the forces of the PLO and the forces of the Lebanese nationalist elements in a blatant and direct manner. The matter reached the extent of attempting to persuade the PLO to align with the position of the Arab leadership to liquidate the Lebanese nationalist forces, something that was rejected and is rejected by the PLO.

Second, with that a new phase in Arab policy began, which is to retrieve what is known as the vital and security interests of Syria in Lebanon. Lebanon began to assume first priority in the policy of this leadership and its [words indistinct].

Third, the Zionist aggression against Lebanon began on 6 June 1982 and a cease-fire was announced between the Arab forces and the Zionist forces on 10 June 1982, as part of an agreement which contained, among other things, the departure of the PLO from Lebanon.

The cease-fire agreement, as announced by U.S. envoy Philip Habib, did not, however, include the Palestianian forces. Consequently, the aggression against the forces of the PLO continued for 88 days, that is, the longest Arab-Zionist war.

Fourth, this Arab leadership then closed the border to prevent the arrival of any volunteer, arms, ammunitions or supplies to the Palestinian forces, which found themselves fighting alone on the land of encirclement from all sides.

Fifth, this Arab leadership continued the conspiracy against the PLO, beginning by forming, assisting, arming, and supplying a split inside the Fatah Movement to impose hegemony over the PLO. This was followed by the tragedy of the encirclement of the PLO forces in Tripoli in 1983 by Arab forces masked as Palestinians. The Zionist enemy contributed to that encirclement with air and naval bombing of the Nahr al-Barid and the Baddawi camps. This was followed by the departure of the PLO forces from Tripoli and, consequently, the fulfillment of the task of expelling the PLO from Lebanon.

The official media of that regime, which was regretfully followed by some of the Arab media, including some of the official media, as well as Western media, focused on the notion that the fighting is between the Palestinians. This was at a time before the blood of the martyrs of the known massacre of Sabra and Shatila masscre, which was led by the Zionist butcher Sharon through his instrument, Elie Hubaykah, who is now patronized by the Arab leadership, had dried.

The reason for that was to remove the sacredness of the Palestinian fighter, the Palestinian people, and the Palestinian leadership following the longest and the most important of the battles of the Arabs, that is, the encirclement and the battle of Beirut.

It was also to give ammunition to the Zionist media which could say that the Palestinians themselves did what Sharon had done. This [word indistinct] according to the plan of the Arab hirelings, would enable the leadership of this regime to contain the PLO and exercise hegemony over the national imdependent Palestinian decision and utilize it as a political pawn for policy of this leadership so the area could be turned into sectarian states, starting with Lebanon and ending with the [word indistinct] entire region.

In spite of the fact that the Arab leadership of this regime had lost the battle of exercising hegemony over the Palestinian decision and encircling the PLO in the battles of Tripoli, this leadership is, with great regrets, still practicing its policy in the camps of Lebanon in a hopeless attempt to

achieve this objective, in addition to [words indistinct]. It is the same as the Zionist theory [words indistinct] to repatriate [words indistinct] Palestinians to Jordan, with the same objective and for the same purpose.

This integration of objectives between the Zionist-U.S. leadership and the hireling Arab leadership is a matter which calls for [word indistinct].

Following the 1973 war, official Arab talks began to [?lean toward] a political settlement and [words indistinct]. During the Baghdad summit of 1979, after Egypt's [words indistinct] departure from the Arab fold, Syria was alloted the sum of (?$1.89 billion) annually for a period of up to 10 years. Jordan was allotted (?$252 million) annually for a period of up to 10 years. The purpose of those allotments was to build an eastern front in compensation for the departure of Sadatist Egypt from the confrontation with the Zionist enemy. That took place in the context of the pan-Arab work [words indistinct].

As for the U.S. and Zionist role in this sphere, it is as clear as the sun, especially with regard to the Lebanese equation, the situation of the Palestinians in Lebanon, and the [words indistinct] resulting from the destruction of the camps, the encirclement of the PLO, the attempt to turn it into an ineffective organization, and consequently [words indistinct] as a cause in the plan and [word indistinct] the representation of the Palestinians at the international conference, the declared U.S. recognition of Syrian interests in Lebanon, Shultz' latest tours which made it clear that the role of this regime in any political negotiations about the Middle East conflict is confined to Lebanon and the Golan because the West Bank and the Gaza Strip concerns Jordan, whether because of political geography or the international situation with all its sides. As for the military option, if it takes place, it is also confined to the Golan.

That means the resumption of normal relations of struggle between Syria and the Palestinians. That will not happen unless the Syrian leadership revises its priorities and undertakes a fundamental change in its policy within the framework of the solidarity of the elements of the eastern front as a vital part of the greater Arab solidarity.

What is surprising is that in spite of the repeated failure of the policy of the leadership of this regime, Damascus insists on persisting in its plans and priorities. It has failed in the plan [passage indistinct]

What is happening in Lebanon will sooner or later affect the uprising and will increase the determination and stubbornness of [words indistinct] to continue its uprising with greater unity, more precise organization and [word indistinct] escalation [words indistinct].

Consequently, the Revolutionary Council of the Fatah Movement calls upon all to quickly and seriously consolidate Palestinian national unity with more unified and clear stances in facing the conspiracies surrounding the struggle of our people and the PLO.

It also calls upon all to effectively commit themselves to the strategy of the PLO, which is tied to the preservation of Arab solidarity and [word indistinct], to the benefit of the Palestinian struggle, the supreme Arab interst, and [words indistinct] the Algiers sammit.

Stemming from the Arab and national interest, the Revolutionary Council of the Fatah Movement calls upon the popular and official Arab media to uncover the facts and the conspiracy and its implications not only for the Palestinian struggle and cause but for [words indistinct].

The so-called inter-Palestinian fighting happened neither in the past nor is it happening at present and we sincerely ask God that it does not occur in the future. If the circumstances of official inter-Arab relations prevent the sincere dotting of i's, especially in the era of revisionism, then at least the truth ought to be described [words indistinct]. Let it suffice to draw attention to the fact that all the Arab intermediaries—Arabs and non-Arabs—practice their mediation with this Arab regime and its officials and not with the Lebanese and Palestinian [word indistinct]. They know precisely that the fighting is not inter-Palestinian but is Arabs fighting against the PLO and the families of the Palestinian camps.

The Revolutionary Council, having specified the related picture of the war of the camps with the logic of struggle and with abstractness and sincerity, has to point out to the people of the uprising, to the Palestinian people everywhere, and to the Arab masses, its national and Islamic forces, the position of the Fatah Movement which stems from a commitment to the position of the PLO regarding the Lebanese arena. The position of the organization, the position of Fatah, and the positions of the groups committed to the PLO can be represented as follows:

First, the preservation of the civil rights of Palestinians in Lebanon with Lebanese laws.

Second, the preservation of the security of the Palestinian camps from attacks, including Zionist attacks, and the right of the Palestinian people to practice armed struggle against the Zionist enemy.

Third, the PLO is prepared to participate in any Lebanese security plan, a matter which it has repeatedly announced, and we emphasize this does not need a war of camps, the destruction of camps, or the expulsion of their inhabitants.

Fourth, the PLO is prepared to participate fully in inter-Lebanese reconciliation as soon as it is achieved and in Lebanese-Syrian reconciliation if it occurs. Our people have nothing to do with any of the internal affairs of Lebanon, including the presidential elections.

The claim that the requirements of the presidential elections call for the destruction of the camps and expulsion of their inhabitants is rejected by reality, logic, conscience, existence, and national and local interests. The time has come to stop blaming the Palestinians in Lebanon for things they have nothing to do with as a cover for other aims, plans, and continuing conspiracies on Lebanon's territory for which our people, side by side with the Lebanese people, are paying the price with our blood and the blood of our sons, children, and women.

Fifth, the basic rejection of the notion of resettlement and its consideration as impermissible, the aim of which is to close the Palestinian file forever, and, consequently, the rejection of the idea of destroying and transferring the camps and resettling their inhabitants to other areas inside or outside Lebanon.

Sixth, the continuation of the war of the camps under all sorts of masks is an uncovered excuse and an unveiled source of the plan of that Arab leadership, which is against the Palestinian people in Lebanon, and the other side in this plan—the United States, the Zionist entity, and its beneficiaries.

Seventh, the Fatah Movement, from the reality of its interest and commitment to the resolutions of the PLO, welcomes and is committed to opening of the opportunity to every Arab, allied, or friendly effort to stop the war of the camps and rebuild the Sabra, Shatila, and Burj al-Barajinah camps and to the return of those who had migrated from them. It also agrees with the position of the PLO toward the Arab brothers who had exerted their good efforts and which calls for a readiness to conclude an agreement with Syria, the Lebanese authority, or both which would lead to the halting of the war of the camps and the preservation of the security of their inhabitants and their civil rights within the laws and sovereignty of Lebanon.

Eighth, refusal on principle to enter any side battles, but at the same time to confront any battle imposed on our people.

Ninth, adherence to the independence of a Palestinian national decision on the basis of Palestinian legitimacy represented in the resolutions of Palestinian national councils and pan-Arab legitimacy represented in the resolutions of Arab summits.

Tenth, adherence to the strategy of effective Arab solidarity in view of its utmost importance in the international arena to the benefit of the Palestinian issue and struggle. On the basis of this, which complements the independence of Palestinian decision and the principle of noninterference in the affairs of the PLO, the Fatah Movement adheres to the PLO's commitment to ending or avoiding any Arab differences with the PLO within the framework of not harming the Palestinian people's security, refugee camps, and vital civil rights.

Eleventh, rejection of the policy of Arab axes and Arab polarization of Palestinian axes.

Twelfth, rejection of establishing any Arab relation, because Palestinian-Arab relations are ruled by Arab solidarity and pan-Arab interests, including Palestinian interests. At this particular stage, we reject any voice getting louder than the voice of the uprising.

Thirteenth, strengthening relations with any Arab country in a way serving the national and pan-Arab objectives of the Palestinian struggle and Arab solidarity.

With regard to all that, the Revolutionary Council of the Fatah Movement, proceeding from our movement's responsible position at the Palestinian popular level and at the PLO level, reaffirms that its responsible concern to avoid being dragged into side battles will not prevent it from carrying out its responsibilities vis-a-vis the steadfast masses in the camps of Lebanon, the masses that have created with their revolution a (?legend) of struggle for Palestinian and Arab generations, and will not stand with their hands tied facing this persistent encroachment on the sacrosanct Palestinian blood and the right of the Palestinian camp to live and struggle to achieve the return to the homeland, self-determination in their land, and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state under the leadership of the PLO.

If that Arab leadership, openly taking turns with the Zionist enemy in the war against Palestinian existence in the Lebanese arena, finds itself in need of offering accumulated dues to the Zionist enemy and the U.S. policy with Palestinian blood, we are convinced of the awareness of Palestinian and Lebanese masses of their national and pan-Arab responsibilities in these crucial circumstances and that this awareness will frustrate all these abominable objectives the plotters are trying to achieve.

Our great people, who have overcome the crimes of Tal al-Za'tar and the first, second, and third Sabra and Shatila with their unyielding will, can overcome all calamities, difficulties, and conspiracies, including the recent massacres of Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah, with their national unity and depth of commitment to their just cause and victorious revolution.

Our great people, led by the PLO, will continue to raise the banner of confrontation and steadfastness, continue the struggle, and rally with all their resources and those of their friends and allies around the blessed uprising, reaffirming—through continued struggling—the slogan of the heroes of stones and Molotov cocktails in tune with the RPG heroes: No voice will be louder than the voice of the uprising.

The Fatah Movement calls on all Palestinian masses everywhere to further close their ranks and to be more vigilant, alert, and ready to cut off the path of conspirators, safeguard the blessed uprising, and strengthen the capability of continuing, escalating, and realizing further achievements.

The Fatah Movement urges Arab masses everywhere, and their popular, trade union, and national organizations, to continue their pan-Arab role and make it effective to support the uprising as a great accomplishment and as a rejuvenating pan-Arab revolutionary option to get out of the state of hopelessness imposed on the Arab masses' enormous resources and capabilities—as a reaffirmation of the depth of the concept of pan-Arab commitment and the capability of the Arab masses to assume their natural role in the struggle in all arenas to realize pan-Arab aims and aspirations, proceeding from the Arab masses' commitment throughout the great Arab homeland to the Arab nation's central issue, the Palestine issue.

Proceeding from its position of responsibility toward its people and issue, the Fatah Movement calls on Arab countries, which accomplished the uprising summit through an Algerian initiative and made a commitment through the highest Arab framework to provide all capabilities to support the uprising and develop its great achievement at all levels, to fulfill their commitments and responsibilities toward the Palestinian people at the most crucial stage of their national struggle and to make persistent efforts to stop the conspiracy of mass genocide and deportation to which our Palestinian camps in Lebanon are being subjected.

We are certain that all Arab officials realize the gravity of what is taking place in Lebanon under the eyes and within earshot of the Arab deterrent forces and with their assistance and of the tragedies, pain, destruction, wars, and sectarian struggles and their destructive and dangerous repercussions on the Arab situation as a whole.

The Fatah Movement—which has worked with all Palestinian national factions and through the PLO to avoid getting dragged into side battles despite all provocations and continued challenges to our peope, masses, issues, and even our prisoners in the jails of the Arab leadership, who number in the thousands and who are suffering the most severe forms of revenge and inhuman and horrific physical torture at the hands of those executioners—reaffirms to its struggling masses throughout the occupied homeland and Palestinian camps that it has not and will not hesitate in building the constituent elements of steadfastness in all fronts and will not hesitate to adopt the measures needed to protect the uprising from the backstabbing that is lying in wait for it and will protect the masses of the camps from having their destiny and capabilities manipulated.

The movement is convinced of our people's ability to continue their creative struggle, convinced of our Arab masses' rallying around the uprising and its glorious objectives, and also convinced of the deeprootedness of the allies and friends' position on the side of our great people, its glorious revolution, and its national leadership, the PLO.

The Revolutionary Council of the Fatah Movement, while reaffirming the Central Committee's resolutions to confront the Arab-U.S. and U.S.-Zionist plans, also reaffirms the great importance of escalating struggle inside and outside the occupied land and the great importance of making efforts to direct all energies to it so that everything remains in the service of the uprising, its continuation, and escalation until occupation is removed and the inalienable national rights of our Palestinian people are achieved.

The Revolutionary Council addresses a greeting of struggle to our great people in occupied Palestine and addresses great appreciation for the heroic steadfastness demonstrated by the masses of our camps in Lebanon and over long years of conspiracies of consecutive episodes and instruments, which endeavored to destroy our people in Lebanon to facilitate the objectives of imperialism and Zionism. These camps will remain a heroic and deeprooted symbol for all generations and no force, however great, will be able to wipe them out of the hearts and minds of the strugglers, who will hold on to all ties of steadfastness to create them again.

Shaykh al-'Alami on Defense of Al-Aqsa Mosque

JN2107155388 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1400 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] The Higher Islamic Committee in Jerusalem held a press conference in its headquarters at Al-Aqsa Mosque. It declared its rejection of the Zionist enemy forces' excavations and announced the people's determination to confront these forces.

Our correspondent reported that His Eminence Shaykh Sa'd al-Din al-'Alami reviewed the background of this issue, indicating that the Muslims refuse to open the tunnel or the gate leading to it. Our correspondent added that His Eminence Shaykh al-'Alami stressed that Muslims will not back down on this even if a large number of them fall dead, because preserving Islamic holy places is a trust placed on the Muslims' shoulders.

Brother strugglers, His Eminence Shaykh Sa'd al-Din al-'Alami, mufti of Jerusalem, says: We will fight until we triumph or are wiped out. We will continue the uprising until the end. We will not stop or be disheartened. We will never leave Palestine.

His eminence adds: Liberation and freedom have one meaning: I want to be independent and free in my homeland and not a slave crushed under the foot of Zionism.

Algeria

PLO's Qaddumi, Delegation Brief Officials

LD1907212488 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 19 Jul 88

[Text] Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and official of the Permanent Secretariat of the FLN Central Committee, received at party headquarters this afternoon a Palestinian delegation led by Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department.

The Palestinian delegation briefed Messaadia on the latest developments in Palestinian affairs and the camps situation in particular. The meeting was marked by an exchange of views on vital issues and their reflections on the Palestinian cause. Issues related to the recent Arab summit in Algiers were also discussed.

The meeting was attended by Sadek Zouatin, member of the Permanent Secretariat in charge of the Council for Friendship and Solidarity with Peoples.

Chad

Opposition Group Withholds Support From Goukouni

LD2107212588 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 21 JUL 88

[Text] Chad—The Democratic Revolutionary Council [DRC], one of the main components of the opposition to President Habre, said yesterday that it had refused to put its supporters at the disposal of Goukouni Oueddei, as requested by Libya.

There was reaction today from the head of Goukouni Oueddei's office. He says in a communique that the DRC rank and file fighters several weeks ago repudiated Acheikh ibn Oumar as leader of the DRC, and joined GUNT, led by Goukouni Oueddei.

He added that it was not suggested by the GUNT president today that DRC elements should join it. Goukouni Oueddei had not requested or rejected this proposal, which, according to the communique, is fantasy.

Egypt

Butrus Ghali Leaves on 1-Week Visit to Moscow

NC2107093488 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, left Cairo this morning to begin a 1-week visit to Moscow. His excellency stated that his visit includes several tasks, the first of which is to chair the Egyptian delegation to the celebrations of the Soviet Friendship Society marking the July revolution. He said that he will also carry out consultations with Soviet Foreign Ministry and Communist Party officials on the ways to promote and develop Egyptian-Soviet relations.

The talks will also include a discussion of the Middle East issue and the USSR's role in efforts contributing toward an international peace conference, he added. He noted that Egypt seeks an international conference in order to attain peace and the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, as well as to strengthen stability in this vital region.

Dr Ghali praised the friendship between Egypt and the USSR.

Al-Mahjub on USSR Ties, Jewish Immigration

NC2107181288 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1615 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] London, 21 Jul (MENA)—People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub has stated that his talks with Soviet officials in Moscow had dealt with the issue of holding an international Middle East peace conference. He asserted that Egypt is determined to work for the convocation of such a conference.

In a telephone interview with the BBC correspondent in Moscow, Dr al-Mahjub welcomed the recent improvement in U.S.-Soviet relations, pointing out that rapprochement between the two superpowers would provide a more favorable opportunity for understanding and establishing peace in the Middle East.

He said that during his talks with Soviet officials he raised the issue of Soviet Jews' immigration to Israel, noting that there is no objection to the United States and the Soviet Union discussing this issue. He added that objection arises when Jewish immigration is treated as a human rights issue, when its result will represent a violation of the human rights of Arabs living in the occupied territories.

In his statement Dr al-Mahjub said that he had told the Soviet leadership that Jewish immigration to the occupied territories would be an infringement of Arabs' rights.

Speaker al-Mahjub stressed that there would be no objection if this immigration occured after peace had been established in Palestine and after the Israeli borders had been finally determined, so that Jews would immigrate to areas within these defined borders, not to the occupied Arab territories.

Responding to a question, Dr al-Mahjub asserted that the close ties linking Egypt and the United States would never affect the development of Egyptian-Soviet ties. He said that our excellent relations with the United States would not hamper the improvement of relations with the Soviet Union, noting in this respect that the Americans themselves are improving their relations with Moscow.

Sudanese Chief of Staff Departs Cairo 21 Jul

NC2107070088 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0617 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jul (MENA)—Lieutenant General Faysal Shawir, chief of staff of the Sudanese Armed Forces, left Cairo early today following a visit which lasted several days.

During the visit, Lt Gen Shawir met with Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, and Lt Gen Safiy al-Din Abu Shinaf, chief of staff of the Armed Forces.

In a predeparture statement at Cairo airport, the Sudanese official stated that his visit to Cairo succeeded in strengthening military cooperation between Egypt and Sudan. He expressed hope that this cooperation will be expanded and noted that the two countries have a military training agreement. Maj Gen Faruq 'Abd al-'Azim, commander of the central military region, saw him off at the airport.

Djibouti Foreign Minister Arrives 20 Jul

NC2007185788 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1645 GMT 20 Jul 88

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jul (MENA)—Djibouti Foreign Minister Moumin Farah arrived here this evening leading a delegation on a visit that will last several days. Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, is scheduled to meet with the Djibouti foreign minister tomorrow to review African and international issues of common interest, particularly the situation in the Horn of Africa, and bilateral relations and ways to promote them in all fields.

Meets 'Abd al-Majid

NC2107093788 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0925 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jul (MENA)—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today received Djibouti Foreign Minister Moumin Farah who arrived in Cairo yesterday for a 10-day visit to Egypt.

During the meeting, they discussed bilateral relations, issues of mutual interest, and developments in the Gulf and the Middle East.

It is recalled that Djibouti was the second country to restore relations with Egypt after Jordan.

Comments on Talks

NC2107105888 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0955 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jul (MENA)—Djibouti Foreign Minister Moumin Farah stated after today's meeting with Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, that their talks dealt with coordination, consultation, and the exchange of views, particularly with regard to Arab world issues.

In a statement to MENA, Moumin Farah commented on Iran's decision to accept UN Security Council Resolution 598, saying that his country welcomes this decision and hopes that it is seriously meant and not merely tactical.

On the situation in the Horn of Africa, the Djibouti foreign minister said that Djibouti and Egypt share identical views on the issue and that efforts in this regard are making good progress.

The Djibouti foreign minister expressed his full support for the decision of the southern African four-party committee to agree in principle on Namibia's independence and the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola. He also voiced hope it would be implemented soon for the good of Africa.

Chadian Foreign Minister on Talks, Libya

NC2107093288 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0642 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jul (MENA)—Chadian Foreign Minister Gouara Lassou has praised Egypt's role in supporting his country's struggle to assert its full sovereignty on its territory.

In an exclusive interview with MENA, the Chadian foreign minister said that his talks in Cairo, coming as part of the discussions of the Egyptian-Chadian joint committee, focused on prospects of strengthening bilateral cooperation in various spheres, particularly agriculture, health, education, tourism, transportation, communications, and the fight against desertification.

He added that Egypt curently extends approximately 350 scholarships to Chadian students at Egyptian universities.

He also praised the skill of the Egyptian experts who are working in Africa through the Egyptian Fund for African Development.

On developments in the Libyan-Chadian conflict, Gouara Lassou noted that Chadian President Hissein Habre had expressed his country's willingness to restore relations with Libya in the wake of the Libyan call to end hostilities during the recent OAU summit.

Al-Qadhdhafi, however, remained silent with regard to the Aozou region, which is the core of the crisis, he said.

He added that the meeting between the foreign ministers of the two countries in Libreville last June, the first meeting betwen them, produced an agreement between Libya and Chad to draw up a working program to

normalize relations. He noted that Libya, however, set the condition that Libyan POW's in Chad must be released before talks could begin.

He said that his country, for its part, believed that the discussions should deal with the causes of the war, not its results. He noted that the talks between the two countries would continue through new meetings. He also asserted that arbitration regarding the Aozou region has not been discussed so far.

Concerning the Algerian efforts to mediate between Habre and opposition leader Goukouni Oueddei, the Chadian minister said he welcomes anything that may lead to peace in Chad. He added that Oueddei is constantly shuttling between Algiers and Tripoli.

We do not, however, know whether this is connected with prospects of his return to Chad or whether there is something else, he added.

The Chadian minister said his country welcomes Oueddei's return, noting that other opponents who had returned earlier have important posts in the country now.

On the French military presence in Chad, he said that it is included as part of the technical cooperation agreements between the two countries.

Received by Sidqi

NC2107153888 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi received Chadian Foreign Minister Gouara Lassou in his office this afternoon. They discussed opportunities for cooperation between the two countries, developments in the Middle East with particular reference to the Palestinian problem, and the Gulf war in light of Iran's acceptance of the UN Security Council resolution on ending the war.

Departs for Home

NC2207103788 Cairo MENA in English 0630 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Excerpt] Cairo, Jul 22 (MENA)—Chadian Foreign Minister Gouara Lassou left here this morning for home at the end of a five-day official visit during which he delivered a message to President Husni Mubarak from President Hissein Habre. [passage omitted]

Mubarak Receives Sao Tome Foreign Minister

NC2107113088 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0845 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jul (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak this morning received Carlos da Graca, Sao Tome foreign minister, who is visiting Cairo.

Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, also attended the meeting.

Joint Communique Issued

NC2107192088 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] An Egyptian-Sao Tomean joint communique on the outcome of the Sao Tome foreign minister's visit to Egypt was issued today. In the communique the two countries affirmed that convening an international conference for peace in the Middle East, under the aegis of the United Nations, in accordance with UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, and with the participation of all parties concerned, including the PLO, represents the best way to reach a just and peaceful settlement in the region.

Both Egypt and Sao Tome voiced their support for the Palestinian people's national rights and their appreciation for the heroic resistance of the Palestinians in the occupied Arab territories. The two countries condemned the repressive policies pursued by the Israeli occupation forces against the Palestinians.

Regarding the Gulf war, the two countries called for the immediate implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 598 to bring the war to a close. They also stressed the need for solidarity and cooperation among the Arab and African states and emphasized their commitment to strengthening the role of the Nonaligned Movement in promoting world peace and security.

The two parties voiced their support for convening an international conference on the issue of African foreign debts before the end of next year. They denounced the policy of apartheid in South Africa and called for efforts to seek the independence of Namibia. The two countries expressed their support for efforts aimed at ensuring Chad's independence and territorial integrity.

Regarding bilateral relations, the two countries expressed their desire to promote cooperation in all fields.

Minister Departs 22 Jul

NC2207103988 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1016 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Excerpt] Cairo, 22 Jul (MENA)—Sao Tome Foreign Minister Carlos da Graca departed Cairo this morning following a 4-day visit to Egypt. [passage omitted]

NPUG Leader on 'Egypt's Revolution' Organization
JN2107194788 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic
20 Jul 88 p 8

[Interview with NPUG leader Khalid Muhyi al-Din in Cairo—date not given]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [AL-QABAS] Would the NPUG secretary general spell out cooperation moves by the opposition parties in the coming few days?

[Muhyi al-Din] That's something else. Each party has made an assessment of its affairs. We will get together and decide. Of course the NDP people are hurting cooperation, and no one is prepared to be imprisoned for the sake of elections.

In political action there is "the parties' right to be allied." Once this law is struck from party life, you are virtually striking at the heart of political action. I can enter into an alliance with the NDP if it should change its policy.

The doors are not irreversibly closed. However, they are closed now. The NPUG is not cooperating with the NDP since we reject their policies. It is possible to come to an understanding with them, should they change their policy.

We do not know what fate holds for us. There can be no final closing doors. There are now ideological differences between me and the NDP. There are deep ideological differences between me and the alliance of the Socialist Labor Party and the Muslim Brotherhood.

But there is room for cooperation to protect democracy and human rights. I can stand alongside the NDP against religious extremism.

[AL-QABAS] But can't you disclose the nature of this cooperation and what it will be like in future?

[Muhyi al-Din] We will meet and decided on the matter. I don't want to state my opinion and impose it on others.

[AL-QABAS] Let's return to the verdict of the Constitutional Court in a different manner, namely that it represents legal rationing [taqninan qanuniyan] that has been rejected by the Egyptian people and the Egypt's Revolution organization, albeit differently.

How do you view the practices of the Egypt's Revolution organization?

[Muhyi al-Din] The Constitutional Court's decision did not find opposition to Camp David unconstitutional. Nor did it sanction the activity of the Egypt's Revolution organization. The court declared that people have the right to oppose Camp David.

That certain people use arms in expressing their opposition is a matter for the law to look into. Opposition or resistance to Camp David doesn't run counter to the Constitution. It is up to the law to decide whether a given method is right or wrong.

[AL-QABAS] But don't you think that the Constitutional Court's verdict has indeed consolidated a rejection by the Egyptian mainstream of normalization with Israel?

[Muhyi al-Din] Opposition was not considered criminal before people expressed their opposition. But the court's verdict lays down that no party may be launched whose plank features opposition to Camp David. This article is unconstitutional, since the law has not incriminated any opponents of Camp David.

[AL-QABAS] How far do you agree or disagree with the opinion that the Egypt's Revolution organization is a group of nationalist youths who engaged in what they consider to be practices advancing the national interests on behalf of society?

[Muhyi al-Din] That's possible and debatable. When individuals find that they have been betrayed by someone, they fight, but the laws punishes them. Law is to be abided by. All the Egyptian people were against British colonialism, but a distinction was drawn between legitimate nationalist action and assassinations. One can cite many examples. Amin 'Uthman was considered to be a traitor, but when he was shot people passed judgment on him. The right to voice opposition to Camp David is already on the agenda.

Every individual has the right to choose the method he likes, provided he is answerable to the law. Resistance to British colonialism took different approaches—arms, assassinations and other forms. This did not do away with people's right to take their own route as reactions.

[AL-QABAS] Do you not believe they are actually a group of patriots who have sacrificed themselves for a national cause?

[Muhyi al-Din] NPUG believes the members of the Egypt's Revolution organization are sincere. They love their country and they would do anything [for it]. However, that does not mean I approve of their action. There is demagoguery in politics.

If I say I approve, I agree, then I must do what I say. I do not approve because I am opposed to all assassinations, whatever they may be. I believe in political work and my weapon is the word. Even if I find that the word is ineffective—and that is another matter—I have to wait until the word becomes effective. If I were to resort to assassinations that means I have changed my policy. If I were to say that I support the Egypt's Revolution organization that means I must do the same thing the organization has done.

A political party that supports the actions of Egypt's Revolution and does not carry out such actions is hypocritical. That is my view. Take for example the assassination of Anwar al-Sadat. I personally condemned the assassination.

Deep down, all of us were glad the man was finished, but when we evaluate the action we cannot approve the principle of assassination. We do not approve of settling ideological differences with bullets. When we say so and so is an enemy, I agree with you, but there is a law, and the path is clear.

The British were in Egypt and we considered their presence illegal. However, when one killed an Englishman the court passed a sentence on him. I will stand by the accused and I will give them support, and I will not consider them ordinary criminals.

I consider them citizens and patriots who have a special way. However, as an NPUG member if I were to support their action—I understand its motives and I understand everything, but if I were to say I support Egypt's Revolution then I must do what that organization does and establish assassination within the party organizations. That will not happen. Many people asked me why did not NPUG issue a statement? A statement on what? A statement of support for the Egypt's Revolution organization?

But if I support it then I must take action. However, I give every opportunity and my newspaper sympathizes with and supports the struggle of sincere citizens.

[AL-QABAS] You have not yet defined what the Egypt's Revolution organization represents for you.

[Muhyi al-Din] They are a group of patriots who believe that such is the way to express their view. I understand the patriotic motives that lie behind their stand, and I support them in the confrontation and battle. However, to support the organization's action and follow it as a political party I must carry out the same action. There is a difference between sympathy, understanding, and accepting the motives. When one kills one commits a crime, but there can be motives for that crime that mitigate it.

The law treats one who kills in defense of one's honor differently from one who kills for the sake of killing. A court's sentence takes mitigating circumstances into consideration, and in certain cases of self-defense courts do not pass sentences.

I understand the motives. They are people who believe their way is patriotic. That is an issue. The law is an issue, and us being a party is an issue. If our party believes assassination is a legitimate method for resolving political differences then we have to resort to such a method.

However, we believe such action does not bring results. The assassination of Israelis did not bring about a cancellation of the normalization of relations or an abrogation of the peace treaty. However, it was an expression of the Egyptian people's view and rejection.

Bullets never annulled policies. Al-Sadat's death did not annul policies, for we are still deeply involved in them.

[AL-QABAS] Can the NPUG secretary general explain that wave of satisfaction with which citizens received the actions of the Egypt's Revolution organization?

[Muhyi al-Din] It expressed the annoyance of Egyptians. Israel is hitting us with shoes and bullets and is doing everything. When Egyptians express themselves in such a manner they are in a way letting off steam, exactly in the same way as the [television] serial Ra'fat al-Hajjan has done.

The program was popular among the Egyptian people because it reminded them of their glories. The Egyptian people can defeat the Israelis and it is not only the latter who are invincible. Such an expression of feeling came at a time when the Palestinians were being buried alive.

Men and heroes emerged from among the Egyptian people, and that satisfied the Egyptian people. From that point of view, the Egyptian people gave them sweeping support. That makes the position of those who will try them extremely difficult, for they will be tried in a climate in which public opinion totally supports them. The judge himself is bound to be affected by such support from public opinion. However, that is one thing and our view is another. When one says one supports an action one must do something, otherwise one would merely be "a yes-man" and I am not that.

[AL-QABAS] What is your view of the timing of the announcement of the bill of indictment against the Egypt's Revolution organization, a time when Israel was using its repessive machine in an attempt to confront the Palestinian uprising?

[Muhyi al-Din] I was surprised by the timing, and it is said it was the result of U.S. and Israeli pressure. The timing is in fact strange, and follows Shultz' visit. The Egyptian people were shunning the issue of Israel and the United States and the uprising was enjoying the respect of all of them.

Really, the timing was strange. I believe that if the decision was left to the Egyptian Government it would have deferred the announcement of the bill of indictment for a long time.

The United States is under pressure from Israel. The United States fears Israel, and Israel directs the United States. The United States exerts pressure on Egypt for the sake of Israeli interests. [passage omitted]

Briefs

Benin Ambassador Nominated

The Foreign Ministry yesterday received the approval of the People's Republic of Benin for the nomination of Muhsin Khalifah as Egypt's ambassador to Benin. [Text] [*JN2007175888 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 19 Jul 88 p 1*]

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Speaks to Saddam on Ending War

LD2107140588 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution had a telephone contact [time not specified] with President Saddam Husayn during which he asked for explanations and clarifications concerning the reason for the continuation of fighting betwen Iraq and Iran after Iran's agreement on the Security Council's resolution on ending the Iraq-Iran war.

During this telephone contact President Saddam Husayn stressed to the brother leader of the revolution Iraq's desire to establish peace as soon as possible, explaining that Iraq seeks an end to the war, not just a cease-fire.

The leader said: Thus, he wants me to make a move. The Iraqi proposals will be put in my hands and I will today get in touch with the Iranian leadership by telephone. [Tripoli JANA in English at 1655 GMT on 21 July carries a report on Al-Qadhdhafi's telephone call to President Saddam Husayn, in which he said: "If I were asked to move, the Iraqi proposals must be put in my hand and I shall contact the Iranian [remainder of item indistinct]."]

Al-Qadhdhafi Speaks to Khamene'i on War

LD2207102188 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0938 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Tripoli, 22 Jul JANA—The brother leader of the revolution has contacted the Iranian side and has spoken with President 'Ali Khamene'i of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

During the contact the Iranian side reaffirmed Iran's wish to end the war, which comes in response to the efforts that have been and are being made by the brother leader to end the war. President Khamene'i also stressed that Iran accepts Security Council Resolution 598 in full, explaining that the ending of the war will naturally start with a cease-fire.

JANA has learned that it has been agreed that Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the Iranian foreign minister, will come to the Great Jamahiriyah with details pertaining to the Iranian position.

During the contact President 'Ali Khamene'i extended an invitation to the brother leader of the revolution to visit Iran.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Outgoing Hungarian Envoy

LD2107200988 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1645 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Tripoli, 21 July (JANA)—The brother leader of the revolution has received the ambassador of the People's Republic of Hungary to the Great Jamahiriyah on the completion of his term of office.

The Hungarian ambassador emphasized to the brother leader of the revolution Hungary's firm policy against imperialism and Zionism and its stand alongside the Palestinian Arab people. He also stressed Hungary's desire to develop its relations with the Great Jamahiriyah in various fields. He pointed out that his successor will continue efforts to develop these relations.

Algerian Minister Ends Visit 20 Jul

LD2107200588 Tripoli JANA in English 1645 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Tripoli, Shahr Nasser [July] 21, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Mr. Nourani, the minister of construction and housing of sisterly Algeria, and his accompanying delegation left Tripoli yesterday after concluding their visit to Great Al-Jamahiriyah.

Commenting to JANA, Mr. Nourani has lauded the results achieved by this visit adding that they are very satisfactory, for, he continues, the Libyan Arab-Algerian Joint Company has already met and drawn up a programme to be implemented in the oncoming months.

He points out that such steps aim at achieving a unionist construction adding that there are no hurdles in its way. Everything achieved in this field serves to consolidate the unionist movement between the two sisterly countries.

Cooperation Protocol Signed With Malta

LD2107154188 Tripoli JANA in English 0810 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Valetta, Nasser 21 [21 July] JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Yesterday afternoon signing took place in the Maltese capital "Valetta" on a protocol meeting for the 4th session of the Libyan Arab-Maltese joint committee for cooperation between Great Jamahiriyah and Malta.

The protocol includes the backing and development of the existing joint cooperation between both countries in various fields.

Both sides expressed relief at the positive results arrived at especially with regards to promoting the trade exchange, tourism and joint industrial ventures.

Also the two sides agreed upon starting the process of travel of both countries' nationals using identification cards on the first of Al-Fatih [September] this year, the establishment of a joint Libyan Arab-Maltese industrial institute in Malta aimed at training both countries citizens in the field of maintaining light electronic and mechanical machines.

The protocol was signed by the secretary of the general People's Committee for Industry and from the Maltese side "John Dali" the parliamentarian secretary for the Maltese Ministry of Industry.

Delegation Returns From Italian Reparation Talks

LD2107203988 Tripoli JANA in English 1822 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Tripoli, Shahr Nasser 21 [July 21], JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The delegation from the Secretariat of the General People's Congress returned from its working visit to Italy, during which it informed political and legislative institutions in Italy about the resolutions reached by the Basic People's congress of Great Jamahiriyah regarding the question of compensation for the damages caused by the Italian colonisation of Libya, war reparations and damages caused by mines Italy had left over the Libyan Arab land and from which the Libyan Arab people still suffer today.

During its visit to Italy, the delegation held contacts with the Italian foreign minister, foreign relations committees at both the House of Representatives and the Senate in Italy and with the prominent Italian political parties.

JANA came to know that all these institutions responded in principle to the compensation demand as a material condemnation of the fascist Italian colonisation of Libya and that discussions of the details will be carried out later which was an expression of such responsible institution of the atrocities of the fascist Italian colonialism against the Libyan Arab people and condemnation of its horrific crimes.

JANA also came to know that the Secretariat of the General People's Congress will hold in the few coming days a press conference to this effect and which will be attended by delegations from various world and Arab media.

UN Delegate Condemns U.S. for Downing Airbus

LD2107194588 Tripoli JANA in English 1804 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] New York, Shahr Nasser [July] 21, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The delegation of Great al-Jamahiriya at the U.N. has condemned the U.S. aggression against the Iranian civil airliner which caused the death of 290 people on board including more than 60 children.

The Libyan Arab charge d'affaires of the Libyan Arab delegation, in his speech before the Security Council on discussing this topic, says that Great al-Jamahiriyah has frequently warned the world community against the dangers posed by the presence of foreign war fleets in the Arabian Gulf and Mediterranean Sea regions as such presence threatens the peace, stability, sovereignty of countries bordering these seas. He has also referred to the abortive and barbarous U.S.-NATO aggression launched against Great Al-Jamahiriyah in Al-Tayr in 1986 causing the death of many women, children and elderly people.

He points out that the U.S. Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean continuously threatens and provokes Libyan Arab ships and aeroplanes. It is but an evidence displaying the danger posed by the presence of such war fleets in the seas and oceans worldwide.

He points out that Great Al-Jamahiriyah strongly condemns this treacherous U.S. aggression against the Iranian Airbus stressing the necessity of the withdrawal of all foreign war fleets from the Arabian Gulf. Such a presence is direct cause of this tragedy whose responsibility the U.S. should bear.

Briefs

Consular Agreement With DPRK

Tripoli, 21 Jul, JANA—The Great Jamahiriyah and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea [DPRK] this morning in Tripoli signed a consular agreement. The agreement was signed by the brother director of the Consular Affairs Department at the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and on the Korean side by Yi Won-kuk [name as received], DPRK ambassador to the Great Jamahiriyah. The agreement stipulates the opening of a Libyan Arab consulate in the DPRK and a DPRK consulate in the Great Jamahiriyah with a view to providing all consular facilities and services to citizens from the two countries. [Text] [*LD2207023988 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1155 GMT 21 Jul 88*]

Sudan

Al-Mahdi Receives Ethiopian Foreign Minister

JN2107195488 Khartoum SUNA in English 1750 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Khartoum, July 21 (SUNA)—Premier al-Sadiq al-Mahdi received here today Ethiopian Foreign Minister Bayeh Berhanu who conveyed to him a written message from Ethiopian leader Haile Mariam Mengistu.

The message is dealing with bilateral relations and ways of their promotion.

The Ethiopian foreign minister who arrived here today said in a press statement his visit aims at discussing with the Sudanese officials the relations between the two

countries in addition to developing the work of the Sudanese Ethiopian joint technical committee. The visit also aims at removing the difficulties hindering the development of relations between Sudan and Ethiopia" Bayeh added. [quotation marks as received]

Justice Minister on State of Emergency Extension
JN2107112688 Khartoum SUNA in English 1032 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Khartoum, July 21 (SUNA)—The government is intending to renew term of state of emergency regulation with aim at facing armed robbery phenomenon and insecurity situation in the country, Justice Minister Dr Hasan al-Turabi said.

Al-Turabi, in a press statement published by the daily newspaper AL-SIYASAH said that the regulation will not touch the public freedom unless in the urgent necessity and geographical limits.

He pointed out that the controversial statements [which] came from the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) about the Islamic laws do not represent the opinion of the party, confirming that he understood that from DUP sources.

23 'Outlaws' Surrender to Armed Forces
JN2007153588 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 20 Jul 88

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Jul (SUNA)—Twenty-three outlaws have surrendered to the Armed Forces in El-Renk, Kodok, Gelhak, and Fangak in the Upper Nile region during the last week.

In a continuation of the surrender operations, three more have surrendered to the Armed Forces in Bahr al-Ghazal region. Other groups withdrew, together with their families, in Bulgam [name as received] area.

A military spokesman for the Armed Forces General Command has asserted that all outlaws who surrendered were treated well and removed to detention areas.

Armed Forces sources said that the rebel movement has recently spread rumours on the fate of members who gave themselves up in an attempt to prevent surrnders occurring.

SPLA Camp Captured, Children Discovered
LD2107204288 Omdurman National Unity Radio in Arabic 1400 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] According to AL-QUWWAT AL-MUSALLAHAH, friendly forces in close cooperation with units from our Armed Forces, destroyed the Fangak camp of outlaws, in the Fangak area, last week. The camp was attacked and captured after a battle during which the rebels suffered a large number of people killed and after which the rebels withdrew. Also captured were a number of RPG guns and 27 Kalashnikov rifles, in addition to ammunition.

Our forces found three children aged 9 in the camp. They said they had been abducted by the outlaws from their families and forcibly recruited into the [SPLA-SPLM] movement. They were receiving elementary military training when the camp was attacked.

Islamic Front Figure Interviewed on Issues
PM2007153988 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 18 Jul 88 p 3

[Interview with National Islamic Front Deputy Secretary General 'Ali 'Uthman Muhammad Taha by Al-Hashimi al-Hamidi in London; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Al-Hamidi] Why have you moved from the opposition to government?

[Taha] We have moved to the government for a number of reasons: First, basically we are a political movement maintaining a positive program for building society on clear foundations and tackling development problems in society. In recent elections we secured recognized parliamentary weight, which qualified us to participate in power.

Second, the previous coalition formula failed to resolve Sudan's problems. Thus there was a need to search for a new formula in terms of policies and elements. Third, despite the differences in political effectiveness, there is common ground among the main political parties which form the national accord government, in terms of the popular element as well as religious and political inclinations.

[Al-Hamidi] You had some problems with Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi. Have you overcome them?

[Taha] The problems were confined to some political aspects and some aspects of leaders' behavior and attitudes. Differences over policies have been resolved under a political charter representing minimum agreement over principles of government in domestic and foreign policies as well as development and political reform. As for political leaders, some of the leaders who represented an obstacle to achieving accord because of their ideological convictions and political performance have been bypassed. Thus a new government formula has emerged which is both organized and harmonious to a reasonable extent. [passage omitted]

[Al-Hamidi] What are the main problems facing the national accord government?

[Taha] The first problem is deciding the alternative laws in a way that would fulfill the wish of Muslims and preserve the rights of others in order to prevent bargaining over this issue or attempts to exploit it against national unity.

The second problem we are concerned with is the problem of the south and the measures and policies to be adopted to preserve security and return life to normal in the southern provinces. The third problem is to do with economic reform, eliminating difficult living conditions, and achieving a balance between development requirements and production revenues.

[Al-Hamidi] Is it true that alternative laws will be endorsed in the near future?

[Taha] Yes. Great strides have been made in the preparation of them, especially criminal law. And on this basis I expect the laws to be endorsed before the end of the present legislative session, as agreed in the charter.

[Al-Hamidi] Some believe that such a step could complicate the prospects of a solution to the crisis in the south.

[Taha] This is untrue. First, because the problem of the south, as you know, both emerged and worsened before shari'a rules were applied. Second, a large sector of the southern forces agreed, for the first time, on the accord government's charter, which provides for the application of alternative Islamic laws. [passage omitted]

[Al-Hamidi] There have been reports on the possibility of negotiations being held with Garang in Cairo.

[Taha] Garang's movement is currently suffering real problems, including deterioration in the situation in Ethiopia and also the state of unease among large groups of the Dinka Tribe, from which Garang drafts his followers. Of course, this is in addition to the movemnet's failure to achieve any military gains. Besides, there is internal division among its leaders.

Despite all this, we are eager to find a peaceful solution to the problem, whether within the front, as we submitted a written proposal to the government, or within the government, as it has adopted part of our first plan, namely via the initiative presented by the prime minister, which was conveyed recently to Addis Ababa by a government delegation. We welcome the dialogue principle, and we have no objection to it being conducted anywhere. And I must commend the efforts made by our brothers in Egypt to pave the way for such negotiations. [passage omitted]

Briefs

Defense Agreement With Egypt

Defense Minister General 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil has said that his official visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt came within the framework of relations between the two countries and within the framework of the charter of brotherhood signed by the two countries to develop and expand relations in all vital spheres. The defense minister affirmed that his discussions with Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah [Egyptian defense and war production minister] dealt with aspects of military cooperation. A cooperation protocol (?in the fields) of training and supply of military requirements was signed. His excellency said that agreement was reached on training our Air Force with the Egyptian Air Force. Agreement was also reached on expanding the spheres of training in the military schools and institutes. Retired General 'Abd al-Majid pointed out that the Egyptian military industries are suitable as a base for Arab military industries from which Arab states start off. That way there is a . Arab military strategy resting on a firm base of technological capacity. [Text] [*EA2207025688 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 21 Jul 88*]

Kuwait

Prime Minister Thanks President Reagan

LD2107210788 Kuwait KUNA in English 1417 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Kuwait, July 21 (KUNA)—His Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah Thursday expressed gratitude and appreciation for U.S. President Ronald Reagan for hospitality accorded to Shaykh Sa'd and the accompanying delegation during their visit to Washington last week.

The remark was contained in a message, H.H. sent earlier today to the U.S. President.

Shaykh Sa'd said that his meetings with Reagan and the American officials were cordial, fruitful and successful and contributed to enhancement of bilateral relations.

His highness also sent a similar message to U.S. Vice President George Bush.

ARAB TIMES Views Iran's 'Bold' Decision

JN2107160688 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 20 Jul 88 p 6

[Editorial by Ahmad al-Jarallah: "Iranian Decision a Bold One"]

[Text] Truly, the Iranian acceptance of the UN Security Council Resolution and yielding to peace, reflects a high level of political courage and we wish to record both our respect and admiration.

This decision is a clear indication that Iran is now witnessing the birth of a unified political leadership, and from this scenario, evolved the present brave decision.

Till recently, different Iranian political leaders, had conjured many dreams in the minds of its people to the extent that any deviation from the framework of those dreams spelt the end of any politician living in the state of internal struggle in Iran.

Precisely, for this reason, no Iranian leader dared voice his true feelings on the Gulf region outside the framework of its war with Iraq and were confined to speaking about exporting the revolution to the Gulf states and the world at large.

Though the Iranian decision is a brave one, we must affirm here that the happiness of the Iranian people at this decision invalidates the wrong premises of the Iranian leaders on the subject of peace.

Iranian leaders always wrongly believed that any decision towards peace would mean the end of any Iranian leader.

Rafsanjani's announcement of the Iranian acceptance of peace without conditions received unanimous Iranian public support.

This affirms the fact that people in this region are willing and look forward to living in peace and are against war—whatever be the type, sectarian or political.

In a press statement, the Iraqi president declared: "The Iranian people will remain a neighbour of Iraq as no one can shift Iran as a country which would remain as a neighbour to Arabs."

The region had incurred huge losses as a direct result of this futile war which was encouraged by arms merchants.

The region passed through eight years of miseries, exhaustion, loss of thousands of lives and approximately $400 billion. The region was totally diverted from construction amidst international powers struggling around us—some of them with us and against the war, while others against us and for the continuation of the war.

This war has certainly affected the feelings of the people in this region. However, with the forthcoming peaceful era, coupled with wise leadership, there is no reason why the old bridges of cooperation and trust could not be reconstructed between the Arab people and the Iranian people.

Once again, we reiterate, that the Iranian decision is a bold one and the peoples of this region hope they will remain unified in adopting the decision with the same conviction as its acceptance.

The war was destructive and painful. However, we must turn our backs on the past and open a new chapter always remembering that the future is far more important than recollecting the past. Simply said, we should not overlook the future by remembering the past.

[Signed] Ahmad al-Jarallah

PDRY

Briefs

Departing Cuban Envoy

This evening, Brother Salim Muhammad Jubran, candidate member of the Political Bureau and minister of fisheries, met the comrade Cuban ambassador in Aden at the end of his tour of duty in the PDRY. They discussed bilateral cooperation in fisheries. Brother Jubran praised the support provided by the Republic of Cuba to our country in this respect. He also praised the efforts by the comrade ambassador during his time in the PDRY to develop and strengthen bilateral relations.

Issues to be discussed during the visit by Brother Jubran to Cuba early next August were also discussed. [Text] *[EA2007021588 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 Jul 88]*

United Arab Emirates

Further on Zayid-'Arafat 21 Jul Meeting

JN2107151088 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1230 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 21 Jul (WAKH)—Today, His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan, president of the UAE, received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, who arrived here yesterday. The meeting was attended by Khalifah al- Rumi, labor and social affairs minister, and Khalid Malak, acting PLO representative in Abu Dhabi.

WAM said that during the meeting the two sides exchanged opinions on the latest developments in Arab and Palestinian affairs, current events and their various dimensions. They discussed the Arab situation in light of these developments, particularly the search for a peaceful solution to the Palestinian issue as expressed by the resolutions adopted by the extraordinary Arab summit in Algiers last month.

Shaykh Zayid and the PLO Executive Committee chairman reviewed developments in the continuing Palestinian uprising in the occupied homeland, its repercussions, and methods of supporting it. The two leaders also exchanged opinions on developments in the Arabian Gulf, in particular the situation after Iran's recent acceptance of the UN resolution calling for an end to the Iraq-Iran war. The two leaders expressed hope for a cease-fire as soon as possible so that peace and stability would prevail in the region instead of bloodshed and destruction.

'Arafat Leaves 21 Jul

JN2107185488 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1830 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 21 Jul (WAKH)—PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left Abu Dhabi this evening after a brief visit to the UAE. [passage omitted]

Shaykh Zayid Receives Egyptian Economy Minister

JN2107111688 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] At noon today, His Highness President Shaykh Zayd ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan received 'Ali Yusri Mustafa, Egyptian minister of economy and foreign trade. The meeting was attended by Tahnun ibn Muhammad, the ruler's representative in the eastern region; Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and natural resources; Economy and Trade Minister Sayf al-Jarwan; and Egyptian Ambassador to UAE Ahmad Qadri 'Abd al-Majid Salamah.

The minister of economy conveyed greetings from President Mubarak to his highness the president who conveyed similar greetings and wished him a successful visit. During the meeting, brotherly relations between the two countries were reviewed in after the signing of the economic, trade, and technical cooperation agreement the day before yesterday between the UAE and Egypt, in addition to discussing appropriate means of developing joint cooperation in various fields.

Mustafa Departs 22 Jul

JN2207125188 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1150 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 22 Jul (WAKH)—Dr Yusri Mustafa, Egyptian minister of economy and trade, left Abu Dhabi today at the end of a 4-day visit to the UAE. During the visit, the Egyptian minister signed an agreement on trade exchange, economic and technical cooperation, and encouragement of investments between the two countries. He also held talks with Sayf al-Jarwan, UAE minister of economy and trade, on trade issues of mutual interest.

Dubayy Paper Urges U.S. Naval Withdrawal

OW2107043288 Beijing XINHUA in English 1843 GMT 20 Jul 88

[Text] Kuwait, July 20 (XINHUA)—A daily newspaper in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has called for the withdrawal of foreign navies from the Gulf as soon as a ceasefire between Iran and Iraq goes into effect.

The Dubayy-based daily KHALEEJ TIMES said in an editorial that there is no doubt the optimism that prevails in the Gulf shows that the 8-year destructive conflict is nearing its end.

Iran officially announced Monday that it had accepted UN Security Council Resolution 598, calling for an immediate ceasefire in the Gulf War.

"Once a ceasfire comes into force, there should be no reason for foreign countries to maintain their navies in the Gulf," the paper said.

The United States should be obliged to end, or drastically reduce its military presence in the waterway, it added.

The U.S., the paper pointed out, has declared that its purpose is to ensure freedom of navigation, and so once the threat of shipping is eliminated, it should lead the way in the demilitarizing of the Gulf.

The ceasefire in the Gulf War might also lead to strengthening the strategic front against Israel, the paper said.

Yemen Arab Republic

'Arafat Arrives in Sanaa, Makes Statement

JN2107203188 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 2008 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, arrived in Sanaa tonight on visit of several days to our country.

In a statement to SABA' news agency Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] said that he will discuss with Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, the important developments in both Arab and Palestinian affairs, and especially Iran's acceptance of UN Security Council Resolution 598, which calls for ending the Iraqi-Iran war.

He added that this acceptance would help serve the interests of the Iraqi and Iranian peoples, the people of the region, and the Arab and Islamic nations. He indicated that efforts will be directed toward liberating holy Jerusalem. Brother Yasir 'Arafat added that he will discuss with the brother president the escalation of the Palestinian Arab people's uprising in the occupied Arab territories and ways to support and maintain it.

He affirmed that the Palestinian people, beginning with the senior leaders to the last Palestinian child, are determined to continue their resistance to the usurping Zionist occupation.

Brother Yasir 'Arafat was received by a number of brother officials and the Palestinian revolution cadres in Sanaa.

President Salih Inaugurates Parliament 17 Jul

JN1707144188 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1207 GMT 17 Jul 88

[Speech by Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, delivered at the first session of the Consultative Council in Sanaa on 17 July—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate who says who conduct their affairs by mutual consultation [Koranic verse], and may God's peace and prayers be upon his noble messenger.

Brother speaker and members of the Consultative Council; all those present; May God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you all.

It pleases me to come to this lofty democratic institution on this great historic day which can be considered a new revolutionary achievement scored by the republic and a practical embodiment of the fourth objective of the eternal 26 September Revolution. [Applause] I am also pleased to extend my sincere and heartfelt congratulations to the people on this significant democratic Shura accomplishment. I would also like to extend my congratulations to the brothers, the speaker and members of the Consultative Council, on the confidence the people have placed in them.

I would also like to voice my thanks and appreciation to the General People's Congress, as the congress members exerted praiseworthy efforts during its session. During these periods, they made efforts that contributed greatly toward consolidating the democratic practices and measures which go in line with the provisions of the constitution and the course of Shura for the sake of which our people have struggled, offered the greatest sacrifices, and resisted the dictatorial, despotic, one- man, and tyrannical Imamite rule until victory was realized on 26 Septemebr 1962. [applause]

The success of the Consultative Council elections—which were held and consummated in God's care and protection and in a free, democratic, and honest atmosphere—embodies the genuiness of our people's Shura principles which are derived from the strength of their faith in God, from their national commitment, and from the revolution.

These principles are also inspired by an awareness of the national and historic responsibilities involved. Thus, the greatest accomplishment and the most important democratic step has been taken on the road to enhancing and entrenching genuine popular participation in political decisionmaking and also in implementing the principle of the people ruling themselves by themselves. [applause]

Brothers, the people have chosen you to represent them at the highest and greatest legislative institution and have given you the historic responsibility for caring for and protecting their interests. Hence, you must place before your eyes the interests of the homeland, the people, and the revolution which must be put above everything. Do not let individualistic whims and inclinations override the public interest. [applause] Besides, you have to rise to the level of the confidence placed in you by the people.

Brothers, grave tasks lie ahead of you. These tasks are dictated by the forthcoming phase of our people's life. These tasks pertain to development, democracy, and the restoration of Yemeni unity. [applause] These tasks aslo pertain to the enhancement of our country's relations with brothers and friends. Furthermore, there are other tasks pertaining to the continuation and entrenchment of democracy through the Council's contribution, the positive contribution toward consolidating genuine democratic practices.

Your important national position as representatives of the people necessitates that all your actions and decisions reflect the values of consultation, which is considered one of the characteristics of our people's national heritage throughout history. This is in order to enable your esteemed Assembly fully to carry out its legislative and control tasks as specified by the Constitution and with a spirit of national responsibility. [applause]

Brothers, while embarking on its major responsibilities and great tasks, the Consultative Council faces a historic and constitutional responsibility. This responsibility concerns measures leading to the nomination of a president of the Republic. Now, 10 years after my assumption of the country's leadership in quest of continued, serious work shouldering heavy burdens and great responsibilities in fulfillment of, and commitment to, the promise to achieve many political, social, economic, development, democratic, and unity goals, and to consolidate the country's defensive ability, I now render to your esteemed Assembly my final resignation.

I insist on asking the brother chairman and members of the Consultative Council to give the opportunity for nominating to the country's leadership whomever they consider capable, competent, sincere, and faithful to the sacrifices of the martyrs of the revolution and Republic; someone who is capable of maintaining the homeland's sovereignty and independence, has respect for the Constitution, and is committed to the principles and objectives of the immortal 26 September revolution and the contents of the National Charter.

Brothers, I affirm to you that you will find in me a soldier ready to serve the homeland, the people, and the revolution in all cases and circumstances. I am duty-bound to act in accordance with the provisions of the permanent Constitution and the decision of the Constituent People's Assembly issued on 4 April [date not further specified] regarding the continuation of the present Presidency for 90 days as of 22 May 1988. This is to enable you to take your constitutional procedures for nominating and electing the president of the Republic after due consideration and without hurry.

I beseech God to aid us all in serving the homeland, people, and revolution under the republican system, the objectives of the immortal September revolution, and the contents of the National Charter to achieve further progress, advancement, and prosperity. Peace and blessings of God be upon you. [applause]

Salih Elected for Second Term

JN1807193388 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Jul 88

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, took the constitutional oath in front of the Consultative Council in its morning session today on the occasion of his election as president of the Republic and commander in chief of the Armed Forces for a second presidential term.

Brother 'Abd al-Karim 'Abdallah al-'Arashi, speaker of the Council and member of the Standing Committee, opened the session. He delivered a welcoming speech in which he pointed out that yesterday the Council received the brother leader secretary general who submitted his resignation to the Consultative Council in accordance with the Constitution. In this session, the Council welcomes the brother leader scretary general after the people have expressed their trust in him through their representatives by electing him for a new presidential term.

The Consultative Council speaker then called on the brother leader to take the constitutional oath in front of the people's representatives. The following is a recording of the oath:

[Begin Salih recording] In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate. I swear by Almighty God that I will adhere to God's book and his prophet's traditions, be true to my religion, my country, and my nation, observe the republican regime and the principles of the revolution, respect the country's Constitution and regulations, and be loyal and considerate to the nation's freedom, interests, wealth, and dignity. I will do my best and use all the powers at my disposal to preserve the sovereignty and independence of the country and to defend the safety of its land, and may God be my witness. [applause] [end recording]

After taking the constitutional oath, the brother leader secretary general delivered a historic speech in which he defined the main characteristic of national action for the coming stage. A recording of the speech of the brother leader secretary general follows:

[Begin Salih recording] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. God's peace and blessings be upon His honorable prophet. Brother speaker and members of the Consultative Council, all those present, members of the diplomatic corps, sons of our people here and abroad, God's peace and blessings be upon you. I greet you with the greetings of the Republic and revolution, the greeting of Shura. Yesterday, I was standing on this consultative platform announcing my final resignation from the presidential office, asking you to nominate and elect a new president for the Republic in a spirit of historic responsibility and to give the opportunity to whomever you saw fit to bear this great responsibility.

Among our people are many loyal and faithful men who are capable of bearing this great national responsibility. I was surprised by our esteemed Council's decision to re-elect me president of the Republic for a second term. [applause] I accepted this decision in submission to the desire of the people's representatives. [applause] We seek assistance and success from God to serve the people, the

revolution, and the homeland's progress, prosperity, stability, and security. I appreciate the sincere patriotic feelings of all the sons of our people and I take pride in the valuable confidence of the Consultative Council.

O brothers, in 1983 I announced on this consultative platform that our country had no political prisoners. Today I announce this a second time from this place; there isn't a single political prisoner in our country [applause] because we have chosen consultation as a course of conduct in our people's lives. On this basis, every citizen shoulders his responsibility toward national affairs and the preservation of the gains of the revolution and Republic. [applause] From this perspective, we will act, backed by all the loyal and faithful sons of our nation, in all positions of national responsibility.

We will act as one team whose main interest is to serve the people, the homeland, and the revolution, and to elevate the standard of our country politically, economically, socially, and educationally in implementation of the principles and objectives of the immortal 26 September revolution [applause] and the principles of the national charter. We will work toward promoting the democratic experience in our country, entrenching the line of consultation on the basis of our strict commitment to the provisions of the permanent Constitution and the supremacy of the law, and implementing the third 5-year plan.

We will also work toward improving the standard of living of our citizens, providing them with their basic needs, fixing the prices of basic and necessary goods, and completing all remaining public services in the cities and rural areas. [applause] We will also work toward improving the educational programs, finding the capable Yemeni teacher, expanding in the construction of technical and specialized institutes, [applause] continuing our fight against illiteracy until we do away with it completely, and developing the judicial systems to facilitate litigation so that no citizen will be oppressed.

We will concentrate our efforts to achieve administrative reform, develop its methods, and improve administration in all state departments. [applause] We will reinstate administrative divisions in the country and double our efforts to develop national economy and encourage local industries based on local raw materials. We will continue to support the agricultural sector to achieve higher levels of production and self-sufficiency. The government in the future will also work toward providing natural gas to the citizens where it will be available in the home of every citizen at reasonable prices. [applause]

I think this will be accomplished in 1 year from 1988 until the middle of 1989 by extending a gas pipleine from the [word indistinct] al-Jawf basin to Sanaa and then to Al-Hudaydah in order to generate electricity and run industrial establishments. The cost of this project is around $250 million. [applause]

We will work on raising our defense capability to preserve the security, sovereignty, and independence of the homeland. We will also work, dear brothers, for the strategic cause, the Yemen cause of reuniting the homeland in peaceful and demcoratic means. [applause] We will do that with our brothers in the southern part of the homeland. As for our country's foreign policy, our country will continue to stick to its unwavering political course, to strengthen our relations with brothers and friends while keeping to its nonaligned principle. We will also work in suppor of the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people [applause] until they return to their homeland and establish their independent state under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative. We will work to support all liberation movements and combating racism in all its forms and types.

These are some of things that come to my mind about our future work. I wish you all success. May God's peace and blessings be upon you. [applause] [end recording]

After that, Brother 'Abd al-Karim 'Abdallah al-'Arashi, Consultative Council speaker and member of the Standing Committee, delivered a speech in which he said: Brother leader and all those present, now and after the brother leader has taken the constitutional oath and delivered his historic speech, he has now constitutionally become responsible for the duties of president of the Republic and commander in chief of the Armed Forces and their specialized jobs. We wish him success in achieving justice and prosperity for our country.

After the Council has burdened him with this responsibility, it has to affirm the necessity of supporting him and standing by him so that it can become possible for us all to achieve more in building the democratic Yemen, the republican Yemen, the Yemen of development, freedom, progress, and collective rule. In the hope that we meet, God willing, when the new government presents its detailed program to this Council in accordance with the Constitution and God bless all.

After that, the brother leader Secretary General Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih left the Council hall. The Council continued its meeting to discuss the subjects on its agenda.

President Affirms Stance on 598 to Al-Qadhdhafi

JN2107135188 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Jul (INA)—President Saddam Husayn received a telephone call from Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi this afternoon. They exchanged views on UN Security Council Resolution No 598 and ways to implement it.

President Saddam Husayn affirmed that Iraq's desire for peace is deep and that Iraq views Resolution No 598 as an integral whole and as a basis for a pemanent peace between Iraq and Iran, not as a temporary formula for a freeze on specific activities in the war or a only cease-fire.

The president also affirmed that the cease-fire is only a portion of all the points in the resolution, not a separate case. He also affirmed that a cease-fire alone cannot stop the war; it can stop it temporarily but afterwards it will become worse.

President Saddam Husayn expressed surprise that Iran refused to deal directly with Iraq although Article 4 of the resolution reiterates this matter. The party that rejects direct dealing suggests it does not want peace and does not want to conclude a peace agreement, but it deals with Iraq tactically for known purposes.

President Saddam Husayn and Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi exchanged congratulations on the occasion on 'Id al-Adha.

Presides Over Joint Meeting

JN2107190288 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1805 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Leader President Saddam Husayn presided over a joint meeting of the RCC and the Regional Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party this evening. The conferees discussed the latest political developments during the meeting. The RCC and the Regional Command affirmed the need for Iran to respond to the suggestions contained in the foreign minister's letter to the UN secretary general yesterday and the need for the UN secretary general to adopt these suggestions before embarking on any steps.

The conferees asserted that the purpose of Resolution No 598 is to reach a comprehensive and lasting peace, not partial, circumstancial, ambigious, and incoherent solutions.

The RCC and the Regional Command decided there was a need to follow up the situation accurately and warned against the stands adopted by a number of Iranian sources that adhere to the course which launched the war and aggression against Iraq on 4 September 1980 and which insisted on war and aggression throughout the past 8 years.

The RCC and Regional Command also discussed the situation on the front, the war activities of the Iranian forces, and the aggressive offensives against our units and civilian areas.

The conferees called for tightening vigilance against Iran's aggressive intentions until the comprehensive and lasting peace called for and worked for, persistently and honestly by Iraq, is achieved.

UN Envoy Says Iran Focuses Only on Cease-Fire

JN2107205388 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2027 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] The United Nations, 21 Jul (INA)—Iraq has reiterated its unequivocal rejection of Iran's attempts to focus on a partial settlement of the Iraq-Iran war and to tamper with the articles of UN Security Council Resolution No 598, which calls for a comprehensive end to the war.

In a press conference held here this evening, 'Ismat Kittani, Iraq's permanent representative at the United Nations, said that the Iraqi Government has many clear-cut indications that Iran is determined to focus only on the issue of a cease-fire—thereby failing to pay equal attention to the implementation of the other articles of the resolution.

Kittani pointed out that a cease-fire between Iraq and Iran must be part of a comprehensive and complete political settlement. He indicated that Iran is demonstrating indifference to the full implementation of the resolution and added that Iran has begun to procrastinate in order to turn the state of war into a state of no war, no peace.

Kittani affirmed that the cease-fire between Iraq and Iran must be preceded by direct negotiations that should be held between the Iraqi and Iranian Governments on the foreign ministers level and under the auspices of UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. Kittani met with Perez de Cuellar this evening.

INA Cites AL-THAWRAH on Resolution 598

JN2207082488 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0550 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Jul (INA)—AL-THAWRAH says that the defeated Iranian regime which is experiencing comprehensive military collapse, political chaos, and an ever-increasing economic crisis faces the danger of complete disintegration.

In its editorial today, AL-THAWRAH, the mouthpiece of the Arab Socialist Ba'th party, says that in spite of the fact that Khomeyni's speech is an official and explicit admission of the defeat of his regime in the war, the collapse of his program for expansion and aggression,

and the shattering of his evil dreams, Khomeyni continues to explicitly affirm that Iran's acceptance of the resolution does not mean an end to the war.

One has the right to ask the following question: Why has Iran acepted Resolution 598 if not to end the war?

AL-THAWRAH says: Has it accepted it only within the framework of a tactical and incremental premise to attain a cease-fire which it will exploit to catch its breath, and reoroganize its defeated forces to resume the war, aggression, and the policy of expansion?

The paper adds: If this is so, then Iran's rejection of direct negotiations with Iraq is further proof of how the Iranian regime tackles the international, legitimate, resolution and it is unequivocal confirmation that this regime does not accept the resolution with good intentions.

Any move toward peace will not be a serious one as long as the Iranian regime does not demonstrate sincere desire to attain a comprehensive and lasting peace agreement.

AL-THAWRAH concludes: Over the past 8 years of the war, Iraq has demonstrated a sincere and serious desire for the attainment of a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace, and has expressed respect for international legitimacy and abidance by its resolutions.

Iraq calls for a complete and comprehensive implementation of the resolution, is against any attempt to partition the resolution, and strongly rejects any partial, tactical, and circumstantial dealing with it.

Armed Forces Command Issues Communique No 3,268
JN2107170088 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Communique No 3,268 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 21 July]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Following are the activities of our victorious forces for last night and today:

1. Formations from our valiant units in the I Army Corps northern sector launched resolute attacks carried out by the courageous infantrymen with the support of our heroic artillery against the enemy troops desecrating a number of our border mountain peaks within the I Army Corps sector.

With the courage and determination of men and with efficient planning of the field commands, the following mountain peaks were liberated with God's help: 1,820, 1,380, 2,019, 2,182, 1,045, 1,250, 1,443, 1,478, and 1,441 meters. Pride and glory belong to you, O valiant men in the heroic I Army Corps sector.

2. In the Special I Army Corps sector—the Allahu Akbar Forces—our forces launched lightning attacks against the enemy units desecrating some of our territory in the corps sector. With the extraordinary courage of our valiant men and with the accurate planning of the field commands, the (Kullki) border mountain ridge and Peaks 535, 578, 610, 535, 623, 990, 930, 857, 764, 713, and 587 meters were liberated with God's help. Blessed be your efforts, O valiant men in the Special I Army Corps sector.

3. In the V Army Corps northern sector, our units continued their heroic operations to purge a number of our border mountain peaks from the filth of the renegade enemies. With accurate field planning and effective support of our heroic artillery, our units achieved the following:

a. The (Saribi) mountain ridge with its peaks 2,456, 2,597, and 2,386 were liberated.

b. The (Siyako) border mountain ridge with its peaks 3,334 and 2,826 meters were liberated.

c. The 2,983-meter (Dolar Maydan) mountain peak was liberated.

d. The (Sarsul) mountain with its peaks 2,314 and 2,316 meters were liberated.

e. The (Dima) mountain and the (Rolzallah) mountain ridge with its peaks 2,376, 2,670, and 2,421 meters and the (Ganpara) area were liberated.

f. The mountain peak 2,569 meters in the (Mahinuk) mountain was liberated.

g. The (Mullat Dim) mountain with its peak 2,818 meters and the (Mullat Zayir) peak were liberated.

Blessed be our valiant men in the V Army Corps sector.

4. Our daring helicopter gunships today flew 45 combat sorties over enemy units, inflicting new losses on our country's enemies. Our helicopters then returned safely to base, praise be to God.

5. In the II Army central sector, four light machineguns, one RPG-7 launcher, and six Kalashinkov rifles were seized. In the VII Army Corps sector, four infantry positions and two weapon emplacements were destroyed.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 21 July 1988

More on Unrest, Related Incidents in Territories

'Sharp Decline' in Disturbances

TA2107114888 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1005 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Excerpts] There has recently been a sharp decline in the number of disturbances in the eastern Galilee and in Wadi 'Ara. The Yizre'el Valley Subdistrict Police report 22 incidents in June compared with 46 in March. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar gives us the details:

The drop in disturbances in the Nazareth and Wadi 'Ara areas was not sudden, but a gradual process. The police affairs minister links the new development to the speed with which the Yizre'el Valley Subdistrict Police operated and the tough measures they took against forest arsonists and stone and firebomb throwers. Despite the calm, more than 100 Arab civilians were detained and questioned in June, and charges have already been pressed against 18 of them. Hayim Bar-Lev did not forget to recall the part played by representatives of the Arab sector, who did not make do with denouncing the disturbances, but also took action against them. [passage omitted]

Another phenomenon in the Arab sector is the readiness of young people in villages in the Galilee, the Triangle, and the Negev to serve in the police in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip, in place of the local policemen who resigned under pressure from the leaders of the uprising. So far, 70 policemen have been recruited.

2 Killed, 5 Wounded in Nabulus

TA2107112788 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Two people were killed and at least five wounded during disturbances in Nabulus. Military sources told our correspondent that the Nabulus hospital reported to the IDF the arrival of one wounded and one dead, but our correspondent Arye Gus reports that later reports from Nabulus spoke of another fatality. The IDF imposed a curfew on Nabulus following the riots and is investigating the incidents in the town.

Our correspondent also reports that the IDF imposed a curfew on the town of Bayt Sahur this morning following disturbances.

Riots Said Under Control

TA2107160988 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Telephone interview with Deputy Commander Yosef Yehuday of the Jerusalem District Police, by moderator Yosi 'Abadi—live]

[Excerpts] ['Abadi] Good day to you. The way we see the events here is that all the riots began in East Jerusalem, although most of the casualties are residents of the territories. Do you share this view?

[Yehuday] The view is correct and based on facts, but it seems to me that the reason is that you simply give Jerusalem more coverage. Another factor is the importance of Jerusalem and its place as the capital, which gives this impression. The picture you have painted is not distorted.

['Abadi] The question is whether from your point of view, which is more comprehensive, does it not not seem that the recent riots in Jerusalem are the most serious there since the beginning of the uprising?

[Yehuday] No, I would not say that. The riots are indeed grave from our viewpoint; the very fact that they are taking place is grave. All in all, however, we take control over each incident a few minutes after it erupts. Attempts to stage riots are made constantly, and the police have been on call for several months now. [passage omitted]

['Abadi] Do you sense any change in the shape the riots are taking, or in the way they are organized?

[Yehuday] I can tell you that despite the last few days, in the recent months we did not have to deal with hundreds, but rather with groups of dozens—which is grave in itself, of course—but the riots to which we were accustomed in December and January, when hundreds and thousands of residents demonstrated, disturbed the peace, and rioted, are long gone. All we have now are scattered groups of dozens of youths aged 8 to 16 or 17, with very few exceptions. To sum it up, I would say that the latent motivation may be there, but it has no practical manifestations in the adult population.

50 Arabs Detained

TA2107163388 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1600 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] There were grave disturbances throughout East Jerusalem today. Two Israelis, including a policeman, were injured, and 50 Arabs were detained.

Curfews in West Bank, Gaza

TA2107172988 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] An initial debriefing conducted by IDF commanders in Nabulus into the circumstances of the killing of an Arab there indicates that he was shot by IDF soldiers when he was about to throw a large brick at a soldier in the casbah area.

The soldier fired his weapon, killing him, and riots then ensued in the town. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that another fatality was later reported. In the course of the disturbances, 5 residents were wounded by IDF soldiers' fire and 10 by rubber bullets.

A curfew was imposed on the refugee camp in Tulkarm. A youth was wounded during disturbances which took place there.

Some 47 suspects were interrogated in East Jerusalem today due to riots there; 25 remained in custody, and the others were released when it became clear that they had nothing to do with the riots. Stones were thrown at a police van in Jabal al-Mukabar in southern Jerusalem. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that a police force dispersed the rioters with tear gas.

A full commercial strike was staged in the Gaza Strip today, and there were several attempts to disrupt order. Our correspondent reports that the security forces dispersed the demonstrators and imposed a curfew on Khan Yunus and on the Jabalyah refugee camp.

3d Casualty, More Wounded

TA2107193388 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Excerpts] A third casualty in Samaria: An Arab youth, killed by gunfire, was brought to the Tulkarm hospital tonight. The IDF is looking into the circumstances of his death. The dead man is Muhammad Ahmad al-Sayf, 17, from the nearby village of Dhannabah.

Our correspondent reports that the family took his body away from the hospital. It has been further learned from the Tulkarm hospital that another youth was wounded in this afternoon's riots. [passage omitted] There were riots today in the Tulkarm refugee camp, during which an Arab youth was wounded. A curfew was imposed on the camp.

Curfews were also imposed on the Gaza Strip town of Khan Yunus, and on the Jabalyah refugee camp.

During today's disturbances in Gaza, a 14-year old youth sustained an eye injury. The security forces are investigating any possible connection between his injury and the rubber bullets fired by soldiers. Our correspondent reports that tonight several dozens youths hurled stones and sharp objects at an IDF patrol in Gaza. The soldiers fired rubber bullets from the range of 20 meters, dispersing the youths. Some time later a youth with an eye injury was brought to the Gaza Hospital.

The Jerusalem police detained 25 youths in the Old City, after the wave of riots staged there today.

The committee for road safety today opened a branch in Jerusalem, intending to escort buses and to patrol the Old City. Our correspondent Moti Amir notes that the committee has been operating several months on Judaea and Samaria roads, despite the objection of the Central Command commander.

2 Detained for Arson

TA2107194488 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1930 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Two 13-year-old youths from the village of Hablah in the vicinity of Qalqilyah were detained on the charge of setting fire to the Qeren Haqayemet Forest in the area of the Triangle village of Al-Taiyiba. A police investigation has revealed that the minors were led to perpetrate the arson by an adult resident of their village, who offered them remuneration.

Settler Sustains Head Injury

TA2207041988 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] The security officer of the settlement of Hadar Betar was wounded in the head by a stone last night. He was taken to Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem. It was reported from the hospital that Herzl Nisan has been moved from the intensive care unit to a regular ward and his condition has improved.

Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that stones were thrown at him as he was driving past the village of Husan near Bethlehem.

New Commander of IDF Forces in Gaza Strip Named

TA2107181888 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Colonel Tzvi Poleg will be appointed the new commander of the IDF forces in the Gaza Strip tomorrow. He will be promoted to the rank of brigadier general. The outgoing commander, Brigadier General Ya'aqov Or, will be appointed to another IDF position. Another Army position: Colonel Yequti'el Mor will be appointed tomorrow commander of the liaison units with foreign forces. He will be promoted to the rank of brigadier general. Brigadier General Oren Shahor, who now holds this position, will receive another senior position.

Arab Religious Leaders Oppose Excavations

TA2107164188 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Excerpts] Excavations in Via Dolorosa—over my dead body! This declaration was made today by Jerusalem Mufti Shaykh al-Din al-'Alami during a news conference held on the Temple Mount. Our correspondent Shlomi Stein reports:

[Begin recording] A news conference was held today in the Jerusalem mufti's office on the Temple Mount. The principal guests were Arabic and foreign news representatives. Jerusalem Mufti Shaykh al-'Alami, who is the president of the Supreme Muslim Council, made it clear that he will not allow the resumption of the Via Dolorosa excavations. When they were launched, he said, a war almost broke out. If they are resumed now, there will be bloodshed. [passage omitted]

Other Supreme Council members said that it is obvious to them that there is no intention to perform archaeological excavations. They believe that the Israeli authorities intend to surround the Temple Mount from all sides and eventually take it over, demolish the mosques, and

build the temple in their place. These were the remarks made by members of the Supreme Muslim Council and the Waqf at the news conference. [end recording]

Commander Assesses Iraqi Air Force Capability
TA2207060688 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Israel's Air Force commander, Major General Avihu Bin-Nun, says the Arab countries around Israel have more than 1,500 fighter planes, a greater number than those of NATO. In the face of this, Israel is trying to achieve through quality what it can never realize in quantity.

Gen Bin-Nun was talking to reporters last night at a Negev base, following an air display which marked 40 years since the establishment of Israel's Air Force. Asked about the state of the Iraqi Air Force today, Gen Bin-Nun said that although it had gained much experience and an extra qualitative dimension during the 8 years of the Gulf war, the Iraqis had failed to achieve what an air force of their size could have achieved.

[Begin Bin-Nun recording] I believe that there are some areas that we still—with less airplanes, less helicopters—can compete even with the experience of the Iraqi Air Force. I want to remind you that the Iraqi Air Force is getting the most modern equipment from Russia and France at the same time.

They are getting the MIG-29 from Russia, and the F-1—the most modern F-1—at the same time. They have shown in several sorties and several missions a very high capability in the last year or two. But, as an overall air force, I believe that they haven't achieved what an air force in this size could have achieved after so many years of experience.

We believe that we can cope, even with the new technology that the Arab countries are getting from all over the world and with the new weapons they are getting because we believe that weapons and technology are only one dimension in the qualitative need that an air force needs.

And, we believe that in the other two dimensions: manpower—the fighters, the pilots—and the tactics and techniques, we can still be ahead. [end recording]

Egypt's Mubarak Sends Message to Shamir, Peres
TA2207120588 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 22 Jul 88 p 2

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Text] Egyptian President Husni Mubarak sent a message this week to Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres calling on them to stop creating an atmosphere of hostility toward Iraq. In his letter, Mubarak says that Iraq is not Israel's enemy and that all the statements by Israel's leaders portraying it as such harm the chances of peace and stability in the region.

HADASHOT has learned that the Egyptian president expressed astonishment and anger at the statements made by Israel's leaders, including Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, about the threat the Iraqi Army's strength and combat experience will pose to Israel in the future.

Mubarak writes that Iraq's goal is peace and not war, and it is important that Israel should know that. According to him, the Israeli declarations create unnecessary tension in the region and serve the aggressive designs of Iran which poses the largest threat to the countries of the region and stability in the Middle East.

Egypt's Badawi Discloses Missed Chances on Tabah
TA2107113388 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 21 Jul 88 p 5

[Report by Smadar Peri]

[Excerpts] "Had Israeli politicians been more sophisticated, flexible, and cool-headed and had they not been so futilely stubborn, Tabah would be in Israel's hands today—and for many years to come," 'Abd al-Halim Badawi, Egypt's ambassador to the United Nations, stated in an interview with YEDI'OT AHARONOT.

The Egyptian ambassador, a veteran senior diplomat, sounded as if he knew what he was talking about when he dropped the "Tabah bombshell" in the middle of the election campaign in Israel. [passage omitted]

Badawi is aware of the fact that a public dispute might erupt in Israel with the publication of his declaration that Israel missed its chance on Tabah. According to him, Egypt proposed to settle the Tabah dispute without negotiations or international intervention many months before Israel's withdrawal from the Sinai in April 1982.

"We presented all the possibilities. We proposed that Israel lease the place for many years, and that Egypt buy the Aviya Sonesta Hotel and continue to have it run by Israeli personnel. All this on condition that Israel recognize Egypt's sovereignty in the area, but the Israeli Government rejected the proposal," Badawi said.

According to Badawi, Egypt offered $15 million for the hotel. And how much will the Egyptian Government offer the hotel owners in a few weeks if it emerges that Israel has to leave the area? Badawi chose to reply: "I do not know."

I asked him: What has happened since then? The Egyptian ambassador replied: "Years went by, Tabah became a difficult problem, and the two countries dug their heels in, in their opposing positions. We climbed too high a tree, and today we cannot climb down. Israel, if I may say so, missed an opportunity."

The Egyptian ambassador had yet another disclosure to make. According to him, the crux of the dispute between Israeli and Egyptian legal experts on the issue of Tabah

no longer centers on sharing the administration of the resort facilities in the area (the Aviya Sonesta Hotel and Rafi Nelson's resort village), but on the regulations for entering the area.

"The Israelis want to enter Tabah just like in the past, without presenting any identification papers, while Egypt demands that Israel recognize its sovereignty over the area and that Israelis treat Tabah as if it were a semi-foreign country." In other words, Egypt insists on applying to Tabah the same procedures that are in force in the Sinai, according to which Israelis present their passports at the Egyptian border terminal.

The Egyptian ambassador angrily said: "Would you agree to have Egyptian citizens entering Israel without presenting a passport? Would you not want to know, for security and other reasons, who is coming into your country? What happens if certain tourists break the law? How would we identify and punish lawbreakers on our territory if we do not know their names?"

IDF Patrol Stoned in Rafah; Protest Made to Egypt

TA2107120088 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 21 Jul 88 p 7

[Report by David Regev and Smadar Peri]

[Excerpt] An IDF soldier was hit by a stone thrown from the Egyptian side of the border while he was on patrol in Rafah.

The incident took place a few days ago, but it was released for publication only yesterday. Israel lodged a protest with Egypt over the incident and reinforced police units were summoned to the area.

An IDF unit was on patrol along the border fence in Rafah during the weekend when local inhabitants of the "Canada" refugee camp on the Egyptian side of Rafah suddenly approached the fence and began throwing stones. An IDF soldier was hit in the head and required medical treatment.

Israeli sources lodged a protest with Egypt. Shortly afterward, Israeli soldiers noticed a reinforced Egyptian police unit arrive at the scene and take up positions along the border fence.

Since the incident, the Egyptian anti-riot unit has been conducting extensive preemptive operations, particularly in the "Canada" refugee camp. These operations have proved effective, and the harassment of IDF soldiers has decreased. Egyptian police conducted sweeping arrests in the refugee camp last week.

Israeli military sources have expressed satisfaction at the speedy handling of the incident by the Egyptians. [passage omitted]

Herzog Sends Messages to Mubarak, Muslim Leaders

TA2207043488 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] President Hayim Herzog has sent a message of congratulations to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak on the occasion of the Muslim holiday of 'Id al-Adha. In his message, the president expresses the hope that bilateral relations will strengthen and develop for the sake of peace and the good of both nations.

The president also sent messages to Shaykh Amin Tarif, the spiritual leader of Israel's Druze, and to Shaykh Tawfiq Sal'iyah, president of the Muslim shar'ia religious tribunal.

Jordan Said Banning Entry of West Bank Youths

TA2107145488 Jerusalem AL-TALI'AH in Arabic 21 Jul 88 p 1

[Text] The Jordanian authorities have issued military orders banning hundreds of West Bank youths from entering Jordan for a period of 6 months. Reports indicate that most of these youths are university students who have spent their vacation in the occupied territories.

The reports add that after interrogating the youths about the uprising, the Jordanian intelligence service hands them orders from the military court banning their entry into Jordan for 6 months. It has also been learned that the military service department imposes a fine of 30 dinars on these youths under the pretext of evading conscription.

Reportage on Visit of German State Minister

Discusses Trade Protocols

TA2107175788 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Excerpt] West German Minister of State Dr Lutz Stavenhagen, currently on a visit to Israel, says his country will continue to work for ratification by the European Community of trade accords with Israel. Stavenhagen was speaking at a press conference in Jerusalem this afternoon. More from reporter Mark Weiss:

[Begin recording] [Weiss] During his visit to Israel, the West German minister of state responsible for links with the European Community met with Prime Minister Shamir, Foreign Minister Peres, and Jerusalem's Mayor Teddy Kollek.

Stavenhagen said he was disappointed that this long session of the European Parliament failed to muster the 260 votes needed to ratify the trade accords with Israel. But, at the same time, he hopes that the October session of the Parliament will finally pass the agreement.

[Stavenhagen] We worked very strongly on those protocols, and now we want them ratified, because it is our belief that due to the enlargement of the European Community, the Mediterranean states should not have a disadvantage, and traditional trade flows should continue, and even be increased.

The European Community does not want to shut itself off from others, but to be open to others, and therefore we hope and we firmly believe that in October this ratification will be possible. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Ends Visit

TA2107145288 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] In his meeting with the Soviet Union's leader, German Chancellor Helmut Kohl will raise the problem of the exit of Jews, in the framework of the human rights issue. This was announced today by a German Cabinet minister of state at the end of a visit to Israel. State Minister Stavenhagen told our correspondent Dan Eshel that Mr Kohl will speak with Gorbachev on the exit of both Jews and Germans from the USSR. Mr Stavenhagen expressed the hope that these talks will have positive results.

Further Reportage on Visit by Hungary's Szabo

Meets With Shamir

TA2207093988 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0830 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Hungary wants to increase economic cooperation with Israel, particularly in terms of importing advanced technology from Israel rather than from the United States and Western Europe. This was stated by Istvan Szabo, a member of the Hungarian Communist Party, in a meeting with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Szabo came to Israel to examine possibilities for strengthening bilateral economic relations, including the expansion of tourism and trade.

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 0800 GMT on 22 July reports that "Szabo delivered a message from the Hungarian leader to Prime Minister Shamir."]

Confers With Peres

TA2207104488 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres conferred with Istvan Szabo, a member of the Hungarian Communist Party Politburo, this morning. The Hungarian guest emphasized that he had come to Israel to promote bilateral commercial ties.

Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that the foreign minister told his visitor that the absence of diplomatic relations impairs the signing of trade agreements between the two countries, but that the development of a commercial infrastructure would pave the way to the establishment of full relations. The Hungarian envoy also conferred with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this morning.

Cabinet Secretary Departs for Poland, Hungary

TA2207043388 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Cabinet Secretary Elyaqim Rubenstein has left on a visit to Poland and Hungary. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that Rubenstein will confer with officials in Warsaw and Budapest, although his visit is described as private.

Our correspondent points out that the prime minister and the foreign minister will confer tomorrow with Istvan Szabo, a member of the Hungarian Politburo. Szabo came to Israel as the guest of an economic company to hold talks on the promotion of reciprocal agricultural trade between Hungary and Israel.

Poll Shows Equal Support for Labor, Likud

TA1707102588 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 17 Jul 88 p 1

[Hanokh and Rafi Smith poll]

[Text] The percentage of voters for the two main parties—the Labor Party and the Likud—is the same. A survey conducted in the second half of June showed the following: Each of the parties will receive 33.5 percent of the Jewish vote.

It should be pointed out that this is less than these parties received in the 1984 elections.

The poll was carried out among a representative number of 1,200 men and women among the adult Jewish population (including kibbutzim, moshavim, and Jewish settlements in Judaea and Samaria). The poll did not include Israeli Arabs, who make up slightly over 10 percent of the voters.

Equal support for the two main parties signifies that the gap between them is closing: In December 1987, before the uprising in the territories, the Labor Party received 36 percent of the vote and the Likud 29 percent. At the end of March 1988, the Labor Party received 35 percent and the Likud 30 percent. The gap was closed in the June poll, although the right-wing bloc is in the lead with a gap similar to that which it held in the last Knesset elections.

The support for the Tehiya has not changed over the past 6 months and stands at 7 percent, compared with the 4 percent it received in the 1984 general elections. Support for Kahane—2.5 percent—is still almost double what he received in the elections.

The support for Refa'el Eytan (Tzomet) dropped in the June poll compared with December 1987 and March 1988, and is now 1 percent.

Support for the Citizen's Rights Movement [CRM] continued to be high in June—6 percent of the voters compared to 2.5 percent in the 1984 Knesset elections. Support for the centrist parties (Shinuy and the Independent Liberals) dropped below 2 percent while some 1 percent supported MAPAM.

At this stage, the religious parties have not managed to garner the public support they received in the last elections. The religious bloc includes the new MEMAD party [Hebrew acronym for Religious Central Camp].

Some 4 percent said they have not yet decided for whom to vote, and by election time in November there may be changes in public opinion, as has happened in the past.

"For which party would you vote if the Knesset elections were held today?" (Results are in percentages; Jews only)

Party or bloc	11th Knesset	Dec 87 poll	Mar 88 poll	Jun 88 poll
Labor (including Yahad)	39	36	35	33.5
Likud	36	26	30	33.5
Religious parties	10.5	9	9	9
Tehiya	4	7	7	7
Tzomet	-	2plus	2	1
CRM	2.5	7	5	6
Center Movement-Shinuy	2.5	2	2	1plus
MAPAM	-	1	1	1plus
KAKH	1.5	3	3	2.5
Others	3	2minus	1	1
Ometz-RAFI	1	1minus	1minus	-
Undecided	-	4.5	4	4

HADASH Submits No-Confidence Over Exercises

TA2107174888 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] The HADASH faction has submitted a motion of no-confidence in the government over the intention to hold joint U.S.-Israeli military exercises in Israel. According to the HADASH statement, the exercises are liable to exacerbate the tension in the region.

New Regulations Creating Arab 'Resentment'

TA2207115788 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1005 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] New regulations have provoked great resentment among Israel's Arab population. These regulations restrict the people living in Arab countries whom Israeli Arabs may invite to visit in Israel. The new regulations stipulate that Israeli Arabs may invite only immediate relatives. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports:

The new regulations which went into effect at the beginning of June have affected not only inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip, but Israel's Arab citizens as well.

For many years, at least since the early 1970's, the Interior Ministry had granted permission to inhabitants of the Galilee and the Triangle to invite residents of Arab countries—ranging from distant Yemen to nearby Jordan—for a visit, and nobody seriously checked whether these were relatives, childhood friends, or plain folk who wanted to observe the enemy from up close. These tourists spent the summer in Israel, and later returned to their homes.

This arrangement, however, was abolished this year. Israeli Arabs may invite only their brothers, sisters, or parents for a visit. This has resulted in an 80-percent drop in the number of Arab tourists compared with previous years.

Although Arab community leaders understand the reasons that led the authorities to adopt this measure, which is not aimed at them, they do not conceal their resentment. That is why they submitted their protest to the prime minister in the hope that the regulations will be amended.

The protests were conveyed to the prime minister, who is also the acting interior minister, by ministry officials in charge of the border terminals.

Commentator Sees Emerging Palestinian Leadership

TA2107131188 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 21 Jul 88 p 6

[First in a series of commentaries by Pinhas 'Inbari: "The Palestinian Address"]

[Text] Despite the fact that the overt political process is frozen until after the Israeli and the U.S. elections, indirect negotiations have been in progress behind the scenes. The Romanian initiative indeed exposed the Likud's part in the surprising process involving the PLO, while the Alignment's indirect contacts with the PLO have not yet been made public. In any case, new political facts are being established in the West Bank these very days. They should not be left unnoticed.

The intifada [uprising] probably lies at the root of these indirect contacts with the PLO. Of course, the Israeli interest is to stop the uprising or, at least, bring it down

to a tolerable level. Because it is clear that Jordan is not the right addressee for such negotiations, the relevant address would be that of the PLO—whether Shamir confirms or denies it.

On the eve of Foreign Ministry Director General Avraham Tamir's departure for Egypt, 'AL HAMISHMAR reported that Israel is asking for Egypt's help in finding a Palestinian interlocutor in the territories to negotiate with—not as a substitute for the international conference, but as a lever for its promotion. This interlocutor must, of course, be acceptable to the PLO. It seems that such interlocutors are currently emerging in the territories, encouraged by the PLO and welcomed by those Israeli circles whose eyes were opened by the intifada. Unfortunately, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin is not one of them at this stage.

For years, Palestinian figures have been in the habit of meeting with foreign politicians visiting Israel. We have become so accustomed to this phenomenon that we fail to see its importance and the recent developments resulting from it.

These meetings excluded a large political representation of the forces operating in the territories—primarily, the left-wing Palestinians and the militant Al-Shabibah youth movement who have been boycotting these meetings, claiming that they damage the PLO's exclusive representation of the Palestinians. Any guest who wishes to hear the Palestinian views should go to Tunisia and visit Yasir 'Arafat, these circles say.

Hence, the scope of the Palestinian interlocutors has been very limited and consisted only of certain pragmatic Fatah supporters and pro-Jordanian Palestinians, while the radicals were still debating the issue. A change became evident during Japanese Foreign Minister Uno's visit. Meeting a foreign politician for the first time were figures representing a more radical line in Fatah. This trend became even more evident in the meetings held by the Netherlands Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek.

The radicals who came to meet Uno could claim that Japan is different from any European country or the United States in that it has invited 'Arafat on an official visit and it recognizes the PLO. Hence, such meetings do not undermine the PLO's exclusive representation of the Palestinians. The Netherlands, however, is just the opposite of Japan. It is known for its traditional friendship with Israel and the Jewish people; it has not recognized the PLO, and there is no sign of it doing so in the near future. A meeting with the foreign minister of such a country could be used as an argument by those who fear that the PLO will lose its exclusivity.

I found out, surprisingly enough, that the composition of the Palestinian delegation to the meeting with the Netherlands foreign minister was very impressive. It included not only the two Fatah camps, but also representatives of the Palestinian left wing and, for the first time, a group of women. This underlines the impression that there is a growing Palestinian representation involved in the political process, in the spirit of the aforementioned Israeli request to Egypt.

Hence, the meeting with the Netherlands foreign minister constituted the left-wing Palestinian representation's premiere, and may be interpreted as the PLO's consent to the emergence of local interlocutors who, in coordination with it, will play a preliminary role in the political process until the time comes to discuss an international conference.

Who are the local interlocutors, and what are their positions?

A week before the meeting with the Dutch minister, AL-FAJR's editor Hanna Sinyurah met with UN Under Secretary Marrack Goulding and presented him a surprising document: a letter from the Unified National Command of the Uprising—the signatory on all the pamphlets distributed in the territories—addressed to the UN secretary. So far, the Unified National Command has not denied the existence of such a letter. Furthermore, its contents were reported from Tunisia even before the residents of the territories had seen it.

The letter is indeed addressed to the UN secretary, but its contents are suitable for Israel as well. The letter basically contains a list of demands that can be easily interpreted as conditions for ending the uprising. It demands that the IDF be removed from all Palestinian locations in the territories and that municipal elections be held under international supervision. It calls for honoring the Geneva Convention. It demands the reinstatement of the local (not the Jordanian) law that prevailed prior to the military government legislation, that deportees be allowed to return and detainees be released, and that schools and universities be reopened.

These are very pragmatic demands, and if it entered direct negotiations with the uprising leadership backed by the PLO, Israel would be able to present its own position, thereby starting a political process that would be accepted by the pragmatic circles of the Likud, who would view this as the Camp David process. It is worth noting that in dealing with the end of the intifada, the document does not mention a full Israeli withdrawal from all the territories, but only mentions Arab settlements. In other words, there is a hint of recognition of Israel's defense needs, and perhaps even of giving Israel that which Jordan cannot: understanding of Israel's defense needs in the Jordan Rift Valley.

Waite Reported in Beirut Under Iranian Guard

NC2207045788 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0315 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] The establishment for research on terrorism headquartered in Bonn has stated that British hostage Terry Waite and FRG hostage Rudolf Cordes are being held in Beirut's southern suburb under Iranian guard.

It noted that Waite is inside a school close to the Burj al-Barajinah camp, that he is suffering from blood circulation problems, and that his Iranian guards have provided him with an exercise bicycle.

As for Cordes, he is being detained in a windowless room on the second floor of a five-story building in Harat Hurayk and is being guarded by 25 Iranians led by Muhammad Shamran.

AL-ITTIHAD Cited on Release of U.S. Hostage

JN2207071688 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0656 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Abu Dhabui, 22 Jul (WAM)—AL-ITTIHAD says that intensive contacts recently held far from the limelight and in which Algeria participated have brought about an agreement for the release in the very near future of a U.S. hostage held captive in Lebanon.

In its issue today, AL-ITTIHAD cites a prominent Lebanese religious source as saying that there will be a big surprise soon with respect to the foreign hostages held captive in Lebanon following Iran's announcement that it accepts UN Security Council Resolution 598.

The source added that release of a U.S. hostage will be the starting point for defining new Iranian-U.S. relations.

Car Bomb Explodes in West Beirut; Casualties

Near Syrian Roadblock

NC2207085988 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Excerpts] The explosion of a booby-trapped car only meters from a Syrian roadblock on 'Afif al-Tibi Street in the Cola area of West Beirut at approximately 1045 today killed two persons and wounded scores of others, according to available information. [passage omitted giving names of 25 injured]

It has been reported that another explosion occurred near the Bayrut Movie Theater in the Corniche al-Mazra'ah area only minutes after the first explosion.

Details Provided

NC2207111288 (Clandestine) Voice of the People in Arabic to Lebanon 1030 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Excerpts] Ten are dead and approximately 40 wounded in the horrible criminal bombing which took place this morning in a street crowded with residents and passersby in the Cola-Arab University area.

[In a similar report on the incident, Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic at 1030 GMT says that "53 persons were injured and 3 were killed today in the explosion of a booby-trapped car in the Cola area" only 20 meters from a Syrian Army roadblock. The radio says later that "another report states that seven persons were killed."]

The massacre occurred at 1040 when a Mercedes 200 with license plate number 868876-D registered in the name of 'Ali al-Haj Shihadah, a resident of Shihin, exploded in a narrow side street off the main street linking the Cola Circle with the Arab University area where dozens of commerical stores are located and where there are numerous cars and hundreds of pedestrians. [passage omitted]

Our correspondent, who arrived on the scene of the bombing minutes after the blast, saw four corpses and burned human limbs. Dozens of civilians were attempting to escape from the fire caused by the explosion. [passage omitted]

Explosion Injures 'Number' of Israeli Soldiers

NC2207112988 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] A unit from the Lebanese Resistance-Amal group this morning detonated a device on the Al-Qantarah-Al-Tayyibah road under an Israeli foot and motorized patrol.

A number of soldiers were hit and an enemy vehicle was put out of action. Ambulances rushed to the site and evacuated the casualties to the Marj 'Uyun Hospital. The enemy forces and their agents staged a large-scale search operation and shelled a number of villages, including Qabrikha, Tulin, Wadi al-Saluqi, and Wadi al-Hujayr.

5,000 Shi'ites Demonstrate Over Mecca Incident

NC2207050188 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0415 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] For the first time since the Syrians' entry into the southern suburb, over 5,000 Shi'ites demonstrated yesterday in response to a call by Hizballah to mark the first anniversary of the incidents that took place between the Iranian pilgrims and the Saudi forces in Mecca.

Hizballah official 'Abd al-Hadi Hamadah, brother of the two Hamadah's, burned American and Israeli flags during the demonstration.

Amal-Palestinian Clashes Reported Near Sidon

NC2207070788 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0645 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] According to security information obtained by Radio Free Lebanon, the situation flared up on the lines southeast of Sidon last night. Clashes involving the use of medium-and heavy-caliber machineguns and rockets erupted between Amal and Palestinian gunmen on the Al-Shawakir, Maghdushah, and Mariya lines shortly after midnight last night.

The reports noted that intensive sniper fire was directed on the coastal road between Sidon and Tyre, adding that the situation in the area is still very tense.

Birri Says 200 Falasha Jews Settled in South

NC2107165688 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Attorney Nabih Birri, minister of state for the South and reconstruction, discussed diplomatic affairs with Ambassador Salah Staytiyah, director of political affairs at the Foreign Ministry, today.

Minister Birri said that they reviewed Israel's new crime of expelling His Eminence Shaykh 'Abd al-Husayn 'Abdallah from Al-Khiyam and the need to step up consultations with the United Nations in order to compel Israel to change its decision.

He added that they also discussed the settlement of Falasha Jews in the town of Bzibdin [in South Lebanon] in light of confirmed reports that 200 persons have already settled there.

Minister Birri also met with the new PRC ambassador to Lebanon, who reiterated his country's support for the Lebanese people's demands.

3 Officials To Supervise Lebanese Elections

JN2107191488 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1855 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Excerpt] Beirut, 21 Jul (WAKH)—Well informed political sources in Beirut have said that Damascus has charged three Syrian officials with the supervision of the coming presidential elections in Lebanon. The sources said that Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Major General Hikmat al-Shihabi, and Maj Gen 'Ali Duba are charged with supervising the elections from various political, military, and security aspects. [passage omitted]

President Issues 1988 General State Budget

JN2107195788 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad has issued Law No 24 dated 20 July 1988 incorporating the 1988 general state budget, whose gross appropriations amounted to 51.545 billion Syrian pounds. Finance Minister Muhammad Khalid al-Mahayini has said that the ministry today issued executive instructions for the general state budget for 1988. The Finance Ministry has also issued letters approving estimated budgets for the public economic sector areas and the public construction firms.

This, the 12-month budget goes out of force now that the general state budget for this year has been issued.

Damascus TV on Armed Forces Plot Against Saddam

JN2107194288 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] There have been many arrests in the Iraqi Armed Forces, especially in the ranks of the Air Force, following the unveiling of an attempt on the life of Saddam Husayn late last month. Aircraft strafed the Iraqi president's retreat near Tikrit.

Iraqi media said at the time that the attack was mounted by Iranian aircraft, but it was later discovered that the retreat was hit by Iraqi aircraft. This was later acknowledged by Iraqi sources and word on the attempted assassination of Saddam Husayn was leaked by diplomatic sources in Baghdad.

Reports indicate that investigations with the Army and Air Force suspects may extend to include close aides of Saddam Husayn. The attempted assassination seems to have been meant as the first step to toppling the regime. The Iraqi regime was also said to have executed a number of officers, mostly from the Air Force. Reportedly, they were summarily executed as soon as they were implicated in the attempted assassination.

Radio Cites AL-BA'TH on Fate of Iraqi Regime

JN2207073588 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 22 Jul 88

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Where is Saddam's Fascist Regime Going?," AL-BA'TH says: The fascist regime in Baghdad seeks excuses and justifications to exonerate itself from the UN Security Council resolution on halting the bloody war in the Gulf.

The criminal regime in Baghdad realizes that the end of the war will enable our Iraqi people to reassess stands and calculations and become aware of the truth which Saddam has tried to conceal. This truth is that the war has started for the sake of the United States which wants to seek vengeance from the Iranian people and their revolution.

AL-BA'TH adds: The criminal regime in Baghdad is very nervous because it undoubtedly knows that there will be a reaction. The war which forced the postponement of the popular reaction to the fascist regime no longer exists.

This is not to mention that the prolongation of the war is also a strong motive for eventual popular reaction. This is part of the dilemma of the criminal regime of Saddam Husayn. The Iraqi people will pose questions—and the opportunity is favorable—about the causes of the unjust war, its justifications, and results. However, the Iraqi people's questions will not be answered.

AL-BA'TH says: Since the fascist regime prepares for all events and expects them, it has started to tighten its grip on the Iraqi people. Killings and executions have become a daily practice. The war of poisonous gases is now being waged against the Iraqis in the north and in the south.

AL-BA'TH concludes: As long as the justifications for the maintenance of the fascist regime in power are nonexistent, then its pillars are also nonexistent. Saddam's realization of this fact has made him link his fate with the regime of apostasy in Egypt, and he has become the most suitable candidate to conclude a writ of reconciliation with the Zionist entity after Al-Sadat. The Egyptian rulers, and ranking officials in the Zionist organizations and the U.S. imperialist circles have admitted this.

Arabs Urged To Exert 'Influence' on U.S.

JN2107154088 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Station commentary]

[Text] International relations have for some time been witnessing very important and influential changes. The line of these changes can be observed by anyone who follows events. This line is moving from a state of collision and challenges to a state of dialogue and detente.

Perhaps the greatest signs of this new state in international relations are the successive summit meetings between the Soviet Union and the United States, which have so far resulted in a number of agreements and in proposals for others.

These agreements cover extremely important and sensitive issues, including removing intermediate missiles, reducing strategic missiles by half, gradually curtailing the nuclear armaments race, and warding off the danger of a comprehensive nuclear catastrophe.

This detente between the two superpowers must affect international relations as a whole as well as regional disputes in a number of world states. As an area of great importance, which has reciprocal influence with the international situation, our area must live with the new situation in the world and with all its repercussions and effects. However, this must not be at the expense of constant interests and major issues that are internationally acknowledged, approved by UN resolutions, and stem from the principles of the UN Charter.

This must be on the basis of benefiting from the new situation and circumstances through confronting them with a unified Arab and world stand.

Within this context, we can draw a live example—the call for an international peace conference in the Middle East. If talk about convening such a conference under UN supervision has increased and has often taken a serious turn, and if the United States has found itself forced, under the new international circumstances, to talk about it—trying to impose its conditions, of course—the new international situation makes it necessary for the Arabs to think of how to confront the new situation in the world and the region.

There is no excuse for standing idle and waiting for the clouds to approach the region. Rather, the Arabs must be effective and take initiative. They must benefit from this situation and atmosphere to regain their rights, liberate their land, and establish a just peace.

Within this framework, a crystal-clear fact emerges: If international detente means the removal of hotbeds of tension and the threat of war in the world, this removal can only take place on a just basis. Justice in our region can be achieved on two bases.

The Zionist aggressors must withdraw from all the occupied Arab territories and allow the Palestinian Arab people to exercise their rights fully, including their right to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state.

Hence, it emerges as a very important and an urgent pan-Arab demand that Arab cooperation appear in its strongest form and that joint Arab action and Arab solidarity be in full swing to unify the Arab position and effort for the sake of the Arabs' primary cause and fateful conflict with the Israeli enemy.

This is especially so since the United States, which has always stood alongside this enemy, is trying, amid the new international atmosphere, to impose the Israeli conditions as conditions for detente in the region and to depict Israel as a party accepting these conditions.

Of course, this attempt indicates failure and desperation because all parties in the enemy entity fully agree on occupation and annexation. The Arab must have an effective and efficient influence on the United States, which has many interests in the Arab homeland to make the issue of justice primary in dealing with the region's issues.

Nobody in this world can force us to abandon our inalienable rights when we support each other and work sincerely and faithfully for our cause. The world's forces must respect this will and take its demands into consideration, especially when this will becomes determined, cohesive, impregnable, and invincible to the end. This approach is reinforced by the fact that the major part of this world has begun to acknowledge our view that the conflict in this region is one between truth and injustice, peace and aggression, liberty and occupation, and the enemies of peace and peace-lovers.

The heroic uprising and the international atmosphere, which has a tendency to solve regional disputes, provides a very appropriate opportunity for the Arabs to unify efforts and stands and to go ahead firmly to reach their interim objectives.

This is a chance to adhere to rights and struggle for the cause on regional and international levels. This is not an occasion for retreat, relinquishment, begging for the enemy crumbs, and accepting the logic of the triumphant over the vanquished and the strong over the weak, as the deviant clique is doing. It has suffered humiliation, surrender, and defeat according to its cowardly, treasonous logic. The Arab masses have sentenced this logic to death as they did in the past with the Camp David agreement and its initiator, the traitor Al-Sadat.

Afghanistan

Resistance Forces, Government Clashes Reported

Regime Suffers 'Heavy' Losses

OW2007144288 Beijing XINHUA in English 0827 GMT 20 Jul 88

[Text] Islamabad, July 20 (XINHUA)—Afghan resistance forces have inflicted heavy casualties and losses on Kabul regime troops in their recent military operations in various parts of Afghanistan, according to resistance sources here today.

The resistance forces on July 17 launched an attack on Ucheen sub-divisional town in Nangarhar Province bordering Pakistan, killing 12 Kabul troops and wounding several others and destroying three security posts.

On July 16, the freedom fighters raided the military installations in Arghandab area of Qandahar Province in southeastern Afghanistan. As a result, 15 Kabul troops were killed or wounded.

One day earlier, they destroyed two security posts in Dand area of the same province, killing seven Kabul soldiers and capturing two vehicles.

The Afghan guerrillas on July 13 attacked a military base of the Kabul troops in Qalat, capital of Zabol Province in eastern Afghanistan, capturing 30 Kabul soldiers and destroying two tanks.

On July 11, the resistance forces captured an espionage network center of the Kabul regime in Herat Province bordering Iran.

Three Kabul intelligence officials were made captive and all equipment along with the entire military hardware in the center were seized by the Muslim guerrillas.

Mortars Fired at Jalalabad

LD2107185988 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Excerpts] A group of extremists engaged in subversive activities in Ghazni Province was recently crushed by the security forces with the cooperation of the local people. The BIA military section reports that eight extremists were crushed and a quantity of assorted weapons seized by the security forces.

Another extremist group was crushed yesterday by the Armed Forces in Khowst District. The BIA military section reports that 10 extremists were [passage indistinct] [passage omitted]

The BIA military section reports that extremist elements martyred five of our compatriots, among whom were women and children, by launching 12 mortar rounds at residential areas in Jalalabad.

Mujahidin Capture New Positions

BK2207040488 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin are reported to have captured new positions at Marah Warah near Asadabad. According to other reports, the mujahidin shot down two Kabul regime military aircraft—one each in the Onab area of Lowgar Province and the (Bazatora) area of Paktia Province.

Reports from other parts of Afghanistan say that in the Karavcheh, Arghandab, and Gorgan areas of Qandahar, the mujahidin attacked the Najibullah regime's military posts with rockets, killing 36 Kabul soldiers and destroying a number of tanks, vehicles, and machine guns.

9 'Extremists' Killed

LD2207081588 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0454 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Kabul, July 21, BAKHTAR—Three armed extremist groupings which were carrying out subversive activities and disturbed the peaceful life of the inhabitants of Peacher [name as received] village, Cheparhar [name as received] district of Nangarhar Province and Kabul-Jalalabad highway were crushed by the Armed Forces.

The operations which were carried out by the Armed Forces with direct help of the inhabitants of the mentioned areas of Nangarhar Province resulted to the death of nine extremists including their ringleaders Wala Jan, Noor Muhammad, Engineer Amin, Engineer Puqar and Shamsurrahman [all names as received]. Their arms and munitions were also demolished.

Protest Note No 55 Handed to UNGOMAP

LD2107210588 Kabul Domestic Service In Pashto 1530 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] The Foreign Ministry's office for liaison with the UNGOMAP [UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan] reports that the Afghan Republic's 55th protest note on five violations by Pakistan of Article 7, Paragraph 4 of the Geneva accords was handed over to the UNGOMAP office in Kabul this afternoon.

The note gives clear information about blatant violations of the accord by Pakistan and asks the UNGOMAP in Kabul to investigate, to take the necessary action, and to report the results to the Republic of Afghanistan and to the UN secretary general's representative.

Minister Wakil Sends Protest Message to UN

LD2107063888 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0457 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Kabul, July 20, BAKHTAR—Minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan, 'Abdul Wakil sent a message to the UN secretary general, Javier Perez de

Cuellar on the recent crimes of the extremists who killed a number of civilians by firing ground-to-ground rockets on residential areas and requested him to distribute the message as an official document of the United Nations Organisation.

The message says in part that only during one and a half months, the extremists have fired 177 rockets in Kabul city which caused death of 75 persons including 21 children and injury to 98 others.

The new wave of rocket attacks on residential areas of cities showed that the supply of weapons and rockets ranging from 22 up to 36 km to the extremists has been intensified, the message notes.

Is not the time ripe for Pakistan as the main party to the Geneva agreements and to the U.S. as a guarantor of the agreements to realise that the blind terrorism and resorting to military ways for the settlement of the problems have no prospects, the message asks.

While the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan has observed all the provisions of the Geneva agreements and the withdrawal of the Soviet military contingent continues according to the schedule, it can never remain indifferent to the violations of the Geneva agreements, the message stressed.

The message has called upon the UN secretary general to use all moral influence for putting an end to such repeated violations, the source of which is known to everyone.

Najibullah Outlines Nation's Health Care Status

LD2007045688 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1630 GMT 19 Jul 88

[Speech by President Najibullah at ceremony to award medals to doctors and medical workers at Stor Palace on 20 July—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The distance we have traveled since national reconciliation is equal to many years. The important result is that people have come to believe in the national reconciliation policy and follow it. I would like to mention that our intellectuals, including doctors, have shown great interest in and support for our policy. While we worked on the blueprint for the national reconciliation policy, we were always pleased to receive advice and proposals from our intellectuals. These days, the attention of the people of Afghanistan and the world has been drawn to the process of implementing the Geneva agreements. As you know, Afghanistan and the Soviet Union honestly and consistently fulfill their commitments. However, Pakistan shamelessly violates the Geneva agreements. [passage omitted]

Please pay attention to some data: There was only one doctor per 15,000 people. There were 32 hospitals and clinics and they lacked sufficient equipment. Preventive medicine was so lacking as to be practically nonexistent. Curable diseases such as measles, chicken pox, and diphtheria caused the death of children. We inherited this backwardness.

After the revolution, certain changes took place. As many as 18 hospitals and more than 100 medical centers and clinics have been built. Much work has been done to develop preventive medicine. As many as 24 mother and child protection centers have been built. New institues for (?promorphology) and orthopedics have been set up. The salaries of medical workers have been increased. The undeclared war waged against our people by extremist forces and their international supporters has also caused enormous damage to public health.

In 10 years, 32 hospitals have been destroyed. If this war were not going on we could build 20 of the most modern hospitals and more than 7 polyclinics [words indistinct].

I can divide all our problems into two catagories: objective and subjective problems. There are 2,379 doctors with a high standard of medical specialization all over the country, but the number is still insufficient. There are 4,400 medical personnel in the country. The number of hospitals is insufficient. There are 64 hospitals in the country, 14 of which are in Kabul. There are not enough hospital beds. There are 5,141 beds in all the hospitals. The number of polyclinics is insufficient.

There are 98 polyclinics in the country, of which 5 are in Kabul. Medicine and the provision of medical material are insufficient. Mother and child protection is insufficient. Preventive medicine is not yet available everywhere. Very basic medical assistance is not available to the majority of people. A large number of children die because they cannot get medical assistance. Hospitals and polyclinics are not equipped with modern equipment. The level of medical services is not responsive to the modern requirements of medicine.

In some hospitals even ordinary conditions do not exist. I recall an article published in HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR on 5 February 1988. This article was about the infectious diseases hospital. What kind of infectious diseases hospital is it when doctors and other personnel become infected because of unsanitary conditions? When people go to a hospital, they go for treatment. But instead of being cured there, they become infected from the hospital personnel. What is the use of such a hospital? We are better off without it. [passage omitted]

Control all hospitals next month. [sentence as heard] This is the prerogative of the president to you and for serving people and [word indistinct]. Therefore, action must be taken to prevent parasitical diseases, tuberculosis, malaria, and [word indistinct]. The efforts of all administrations and authorities should be coordinated to improve the water supply, sewers, and sanitary conditions in residential areas.

The level of protection for mothers and children, the treasure of our future, should be increased through vaccination. We should concentrate on diseases which can be prevented through vaccination. In order to improve medical service, a 10-bed ward [word indistinct] should be established in Akbar Khan Hospital and an orthopedic and promorphology polyclinic should be set up with a daily capacity of 100 patients.

Similarly, Aliabad Hospital needs equipment and 'Akbar Khan Hospital needs repairs. The government has been instructed to take action to allocate funds for equipment for Aliabad Hospital and for repairs to 'Akbar Khan hospital.

Some 41 professional and administrative members of the Public Health Ministry lost their lives in implementing the cause of the revolution. The government must consider the possibilities of material assistance to their families and dependents. [passage omitted]

We once again take the opportunity to call on doctors who have left the country, our colleagues, to return to the fatherland. The country and the people need you. You should listen to the screams of mothers and come to the aid of fatherless children. You should manifest some national pride because the country loves you and will respect you.

Dear friends, during our meeting with you we should mention our compatriots who live in refugee camps in Pakistan and Iran. The camps where they live lack basic conditions of life. A large number die of curable diseases. Their children receive no medical service. The leaders of the seven-party alliance accumulate wealth. Funds sent for the refugees goes into the pockets of extremists.

Dear friends, active preparations are being made in the country to receive and resettle refugees. The Health Ministry and our doctors should demonstrate initiative, action, and patience in the service of the people and carry out their roles in receiving our compatriots. I am sure that our committed doctors [words indistinct] can play an active role in implementing national reconciliation and in campaigning against war. Arrange meetings. Send letters to the United Nations and international doctors organizations. Invite those Afghan doctors who live abroad to return to the homeland. Condemn armed interference, whether in the form of bombardment or terrorist actions.

Raise your voices for the sake of peace. Talk to patients and convey to them the bitter facts of war. Tell patients the reality about those who do not want to turn their weapons into means of production. We will continue to rely on doctors.

These are our thoughts on current health problems. Thank you for coming to this meeting. From the bottom of my heart I wish you and your families complete health, prosperity, welfare, and more success. Please convey my regards to all personnel.

Najibullah Praises Zabol Province Citizens

LD2007174188 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 0600 GMT 20 Jul 88

[Text] Kabul, 19 Jul (BAKHTAR)—In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Esteemed Mr Governor, the leadership of Zabol Province, esteemed elders, brave officials of the Armed Forces of Zabol Province, dear comrades-in-arms, and compatriot brothers: Accept our dearest gratitude and appreciation for the heroic defense of the independence, territorial integrity, honor and dignity of the people of Zabol Province. The Republic of Afghanistan is proud of the wise elders and dignitaries, benevolent clergy, the brave and truthful sons of the country, the brave officials of the Armed Forces, and all our Muslim compatriots in Zabol Province who heroically protected peace and security in the province at the price of their lives.

The unity of the party and state leadership; coordination of the Armed Forces units and contigents; the prudence, advice, and experience of elders and tribal dignitaries; benevolent measures of clergy and ulema of Qalat city; and finally, securing the support of the patriotic and faithful tribes of Zabol Province, are the valuable guarantees which changed Zabol into an invincible fort against extremist warmongering forces.

The Office of the Presidency and the Supreme Command of the Armed Forces attach enormous value and esteem to your resistance in the face of hardship, to your brave and self-sacrificing defense of the city, its outposts, its people and their peaceful life, and highly assess your untiring work and action. With gratitude for the steadfastness of everyone, we present you with medals and orders of the Republic of Afghanistan, and offer exceptional promotions and aid to those who have suffered.

We express the deepest condolences and consolations, on behalf of myself and of the PDPA Central Committee, to the families and relatives of the martyrs. Their memories will be eternally alive in the vivid history of Afghans, in the heart of every patriot, in the memories of every child and family of Zabol and Qalat who have been rescued from danger from extremists at the buttressed and invincible forts. They defended the lives of the people, as well as their peace and security. We are proud of every one of them.

The valor and bravery of the Armed Forces and the dignified people of Zabol Province will be a source of inspiration for every province, every city, and every village of the country. The heroic Zabol is proud of its

brave sons. National reconciliation, the indispensable need of our people, succeeds with the help of Almighty God. Success comes from God.

[Signed] Najibullah, president and general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee.

Creation of New Province Approved by Najibullah
LD2107202388 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] On the basis of a proposal by the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Afghanistan for the creation of the new province—Nuristan—the president of the Republic of Afghanistan approves the following decree:

Decree of the Presidential Office on the creation of Nuristan Province.

1. To provide administrative and security facilities for the inhabitants, and on the basis of the provision in Paragraph 6, Article 81 of the Constitution of the Republic of Afghanistan, the creation of a new province—-made up of Nuristan, Waygal, and Kamdeysh districts, and Mundul, (Batimatal), Wama, and Chap Darreh subdistricts—is to be approved.

2. The Council of Ministers, on the basis of Article 104 of the Constitution, will pass this issue to the Milli Shura.

3. This decree is to be published in the Official Gazette.

[Signed] Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan

Pashtun Leader Khan Departs After Visit
LD2107202088 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Esteemed Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan, saw off 'Abdul Wali Khan, chairman of the Awami National Party [of Pakistan] and well-known leader of the Pashtuns, on his departure from Kabul 2 days ago.

Wali Khan arrived in Kabul on Monday 18 July for a friendly visit.

He was seen off by Vice President [title as heard] 'Abdurrahim Hatif; Saleh Muhammad Ziray, member of the Politburo of the PDPA Central Committee and vice chairman of the Wolasi Jergah; Muhammad Aslam Watanjar, member of the Politburo of the PDPA Central Committee and minister of communications; Niyaz Muhammad Mohmand, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; a number of party and government personalities; and (Khair Baksh Bari) a prominent Baluchi personality.

Council of Ministers Meets on Socioeconomic Plan
LD2007214288 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 20 Jul 88

[Text] A source at the Council of Ministers reports that a meeting of the council presided over by Prime Minister Muhammad Hasan Sharq was held at 0900 this morning in the Council of Ministers' building.

The session assessed the implementation of the socioeconomic plan and of the state budget during the first quarter of the year.

The session assessed the implementation and over-implementation of the plan and budget indices and also its failures and their causes. Specific instructions aimed at alleviating the faults were given to the relevant ministers.

The ministers issued special instructions to all state organs and budget units to strictly abide by the principles of saving and to refrain from unnecessary and uneconomic expenditures.

The report adds that in today's session, apart from the above-mentioned subjects, 16 other issues on the agenda were discussed and specific resolutions were issued on a large number of them. Some of the issues were postponed until another session in order that specific studies about them could be done.

The session ended at about 1700.

Iran's Acceptance of 598 Termed 'Positive'
LD2007193088 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0521 GMT 20 Jul 88

[Text] Kabul, July 19, BAKHTAR—The spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan in relation to the acceptence of the Resolution 598 of the Security Council of the UN by the Islamic Republic of Iran says:

The Republic of Afghanistan on the basis of peaceful policy and observance of the principals of peaceful co-existence in the world and respect of the UN Charter considers decisions and resolutions of the Islamic Republic of Iran pertaining to the acceptence of the Resolution 598 of the Security Council of the UN for ceasefire with the Republic of Iraq as a positive step for the cessation of war and bloodshed between the two brotherly and Muslim countries.

The Republic of Afghanistan firmly believes that the cessation of war between the two Muslim countries will result in the lessening of tension and ensurance of peaceful atmosphere in the Gulf area and its positive results will play important role in the region.

The Republic of Afghanistan as a loyal member of the United Nations from the very beginning has expressed its support for the realisation of the Resolution Number 598 of the Security Council of the UN and considers it as a fruitful measure for the cessation of Iran-Iraq war.

The cessation of war between the two Muslim countries which is in the benefit of the peoples of the two countries and ensurance of security and stability in the region has always been called by [words indistinct] the Republic of Afghanistan and have expressed its concern about the continuation of this worthless war.

Now that conditions for the cease-fire between the two brother Muslim countries have come into existence it is a source of hope for the peace-loving forces of the world for the ensuring of peace and the stability of the situation and for the removal of tension in the region.

Najmuddin Kawiani Departs for Cuban Ceremony
LD2107064188 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0454 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] [No date or placename as received] BAKHTAR—Najmuddin Kawiani, Politburo member and secretary of PDPA CC at the head of a party delegation left for Havana today at the invitation of the Central Committee of Communist Party of Cuba and Sandinist Front of Nicaragua.

The delegation will participate in the 35th ceremony of attack over Moncada military barracks.

Italy Pledges Reconstruction Aid for Refugees
OW2007072288 Beijing XINHUA in English 0645 GMT 20 Jul 88

Rome, July 19 (XINHUA)—Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti today pledged a 4-million-U.S.-dollar contribution to U.N. sponsored reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan.

The refugee aid offer was made during a meeting with Prince Sadruddin Agha Khan, coordinator of U.N. aid to Afghanistan.

Andreotti told the coordinator that the money would be made available immediately and could be used to buy food or medical supplies, as well as for reconstruction.

The U.N. has raised about 1.1 billion dollars from international donations for the reconstruction of Afghan villages and agriculture devastated by the eight-year Afghan war.

The coordinator said part of the fund would be used to help the return of some 5 million Afghan refugees now in Pakistan and Iran.

U.S., Pakistan Support of 'Terrorists' Criticized
LD2207080988 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 22 Jul 88

["Commentary on Firing Rockets Against Kabul City"—BAKHTAR headline]

[Text] Kabul, July 21, BAKHTAR—Firing of rockets on Kabul city has damaged different parts of Kabul city such as residential houses, hospitals, mosques, markets, and crowded avenues and thus have killed the innocent inhabitants in Kabul city.

Radios such as Voice of America, Voice of Germany, BBC, Pakistani and Iranian radios and some other mass media define these attacks as indications of strength on the part of Afghan guerillas. Some mass media confess that since the extremists are not able to fight face-to-face with Afghan military forces thus they wanted to display their presence around the city and centres and on the other hand to being about a spirit of intimidation among the people.

Perpetration of such crimes wherever it takes place, in Asia, Africa, Europe or America can be nothing but blind terrorism and unforgivable crimes against mankind. Those propaganda circles which justify such actions in one or another are accomplices of the crimes.

Those who are giving a propaganda nature to such terrorist acts in order to justify them in a way or put arms and munitions at their disposal or give training to them are practically sharing the crime. It will be amazing if the perpetration of such crimes be permissible in Kabul but impermissible in another country. All civilians whether they are the inhabitants of Kabul or Washington have the same basic or natural rights to live and encroachment of such right is a criminal right.

Unfortunately, the governments of some countries which consider themselves examples of contemporary civilisation and are daily preaching others the lessons of human freedom do not think as such and put at the disposal of terrorists heavy and destructive weapons enabling them to fire from a distance of 30 km.

Terrorism is a dangerous weapon. The prevention of terroristic acts are even difficult to control in some Western countries. This is for the reason that this terrorism is directly linked to Islamabad and Washington. The U.S. Government and some other countries are putting at the disposal of extremists thousands of long-range missiles and thousands of tons of explosive material through the territory of Pakistan and are equipping them with the most modern methods of terrorism. The adoption of such positions is even void of the most ordinary norms of human morals and the standards of international rights.

Right now, those who have carried the terrorist acts and are living in Pakistan and the process of the delivery of weapons is continuing can be nothing but a crude violations of Geneva agreements, particularly the agreement signed between the Republic of Afghanistan and Pakistan on the principle of mutually relationships especially that non-intervention into the internal affairs of the other countries. [sentence as received]

'Extremist Opposition' Accused of Terror

LD2207080188 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0433 GMT 22 Jul 88

["BAKHTAR Statement on Terrorist Subversive Actions"—BAKHTAR headline]

[Text] Kabul, July 21, BAKHTAR—The authoritative organs of the Republic of Afghanistan have undeniable reasons at hand that the leaders of the irreconcilable extremist opposition are intended to continue in the near future their subversive actions and provocations to destroy the realization of the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan and to discredit the policy of national reconciliation which is realized by the government of the Republic of Afghanistan.

They have chosen destruction, terror and false propaganda in order to create disorder and an atmosphere of terror and mistrust in the country and to carry on their antihumane wishes.

It should be stressed that the leaders of the extremist opposition have intensified their criminal acts at the threshold of the 'Id al-Adha (religious festive of Muslims) whose days are sacred for the Muslims of our country.

As one of the documents of the "Islamic Party of Gulbuddin" which has fallen at the hands of the authoritative organs of the Republic of Afghanistan orders the armed groupings of the Islamic Party of Gulbuddin to intensify their subversive, terroristic and rocket attacks against the peace-loving civilians of Kabul city.

Moreover they want to put the responsibility of such crimes on the shoulders of the state forces and the Soviet limited contingent by false propaganda.

Commanders of the irreconcilable groups and the terrorists force the peaceloving residents to scatter rumors which are only lies to discredit the popular sovereignty and spoil the Afghan-Soviet friendship.

The BIA, considering the said issues, has the authority to announce that such plans of the extremist circles of the irreconcilable opposition will definitely face defeat. The people of Afghanistan will give a decisive response to the enemies of the nation with wisdom, political patience and decisiveness. The Holy God will punish all enemies of the sacred religion of Islam and the people of Afghanistan.

Bangladesh

Iraqi Planning Minister Continues Dhaka Visit

Leads Delegation to Meetings

JN2007125188 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1045 GMT 20 Jul 88

[Text] Dhaka, 20 Jul (INA)—The second session of the meetings of the Iraqi-Bangladesh joint economic committee began here today. The meetings will last 2 days. Planning Minister Samal Majid Faraj led the Iraqi delegation at the meetings, while Labor and Manpower Minister [title as received] Sirajul Hussain Khan led the Bangladesh side. During the session, a committee was formed to draft the final agreement that will be signed by the two sides at the end of the tomorrow's meeting.

The Bangladesh minister said he hopes the committee's meetings will promote friendship between the two countries. The Iraqi minister praised the trade and economic relations between Bangladesh and Iraq, and expressed Iraq's desire to promote them in the interest of the two countries. He said the committee's meeting expressed the two sides' sincere desire to promote trade and economic relations.

Meets With Moudud Ahmed

JN2107114788 Baghdad INA in English 1055 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Dhaka, July 21, INA—Dr Samal Majid Faraj, the planning minister of Iraq, today met Bangladesh Prime Minister Mr. Moudud Ahmed [title as received] here and discussed matters of mutual interest.

Dr Faraj is now here in connection with the second session of the Bangladesh-Iraq joint economic commission meeting, which began yesterday. He is the co-chairman of the commission.

The planning minister of Iraq briefed the Bangladesh prime minister about the recent victories achieved by Iraq in the battlefront against Iran. He said Iraq believed in peace and continued its peace efforts although it is in a position of strength in its war with Iran.

Mr. Moudud Ahmed praised Iraq's efforts for peace and said Bangladesh has always supported all peace initiatives in the Gulf. He praised President Saddam Husayn for leading Iraq to continued progress and prosperity and also for his role in establishing peace in the Gulf.

They also discussed ways to enhance bilateral cooperation in different fields.

Signs Economic Agreement

BK2207052888 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] The second meeting of the Bangladesh-Iraq joint economic commission has ended in Dhaka yesterday with both sides agreeing to expand the existing bilateral economic and trade relations between the two countries. The 2-day meeting, held in a spirit of friendship and cooperation, took a number of decisions for further consolidation and diversification of trade, economic, manpower, and technical cooperation.

An agreement was also initialed at the end of the meeting, which was signed by Labor and Manpower Minister Sirajul Hussain Khan and visiting Iraqi Minister for Planning Dr Samal Majid Faraj on behalf of their governments. It was agreed in the meeting that in view of the cordial relations between the two countries, any renewal of the manpower protocol of 1984 is not essential as the employment terms and conditions of the Bangladeshi workers will continue to be governed by the protocol.

Both sides also agreed to strengthen cultural cooperation and exchange cultural troupes between the two countries.

The third meeting of Iraq-Bangladesh joint commission will be held in Baghdad next year.

Pakistani Finance Minister Arrives in Dhaka

BK2107161588 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Pakistan's minister for commerce, finance, planning and development, Dr Mahbubul Haq, arrived in Dhaka today on a week-long official visit to Bangladesh. He is leading a 10-member delegation.

Dr Mahbubul Haq was received by Information Minister Mahbubur Rahman at the Zia International Airport.

Talking to newsmen, the Pakistan minister said he has come here at the directive of President Ziaul Haq and is carrying some concrete proposals for widening economic and trade cooperation between the two countries. He said Pakistan is ready to extend long-term soft credit to Bangladesh for procuring life-enduring drugs, sugar plants, power plants, tractors, and agricultural machineries from Pakistan. In exchange, Pakistan will increase its quantum of imports of tea, jute, and jute goods.

Dr Haq expressed the hope that the official talks with the Bangladesh leaders will be very fruitful and the outcome will be a milestone in the economic cooperation between the two countries.

India

Punjab, Haryana Police To Jointly Fight Terrorism

BK2207034588 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] In Punjab, two persons were killed and two seriously injured by terrorists in separate incidents last night. In Jullundur District, Sarpanch [village headman] Paul Singh and a CPI activist, Mahinder Singh, were shot dead outside the village Gahiran. In another incident, two farmers were shot at and seriously injured.

The adviser to the Punjab governor, Mr J.F. Ribeiro, in the meanwhile informed our Chandigarh correspondent that Punjab and Haryana police have agreed to cooperate to fight terrorism at the district and lower levels. He said the two states will share information about terrorists and their movements.

14 Killed in 'Terrorist' Violence in Punjab

BK2207064888 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0630 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] In Punjab, 14 people have been killed in separate incidents of terrorist violence since last night. According to an official spokesman, terrorists struck at three villages in Mehta Chowk police station area of Amritsar District early this morning, killing 10 people. The victims included five nihangs [Sikh temple guards] in a gurdwara at Mehta Baba Bakala road, two farmers in village Chogowan, and three persons, including two women, in village Shera Badal.

The terrorists also shot dead two farmers in a village under Lopoke police station. The Amritsar police also recovered two unidentified bullet-ridden bodies from a drain near village Kira Jivan Singh. In Jullundur District, two persons were shot dead at Gahiran Village last night.

A powerful bomb exploded near Batala in Gurdaspur District minutes before a BSF [Border Security Force] patrol party was to pass the spot. There was no damage to life and property.

INSAT-1C Launched From French Guiana

BK2207030988 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] The multipurpose Indian national satellite INSAT-1C was launched into space without a hitch early this morning by the Ariane-3 rocket of the European Space Agency. The rocket carrying the 1,190 kg satellite blasted off from Kourou in French Guiana on the northeastern coast of South America at 0442 hours Indian Standard Time. Overcast sky and intermittent rain could not delay the much-awaited launching which came exactly on schedule.

The rocket lifted off into the night sky and its brilliant orange flame was obscured by the low clouds moments after takeoff. The control room, 5 km away from the launching pad, echoed with the blast as the voice of the mission director, Mr Y. (Gerang), came over the speaker announcing the liftoff 3.5 seconds after the fourth engine of the first stage gently lifted the giant 240-ton rocket.

The Ariane rocket also carried a European communications satellite ECS-5 as copassenger of the Indian satellite. The separation of INSAT-1C satellite came exactly 18 minutes after liftoff.

Our correspondent Shreshtha Chandrika, reporting from the Bangalore headquarters of the Indian Space Research Organization, ISRO, said on-orbit maneuvers of INSAT-1C have just started. The master control facility at Hassan in Karnataka recorded the first telemetry signal within 28 minutes after the blastoff. INSAT-1C is expected to reach its assigned slot in a geostationary orbit about 35,000 km above the earth in a week's time. It will be put into operational use sometime in September.

The satellite will be put into use for television, telecommunications, and meteorological services. An ISRO team and a team of the Ford Aerospace Corporation of the United States, which built INSAT-1C, will together conduct the post-launch maneuvers.

INSAT-1C is expected to last for 10 years instead of the 7 years for INSAT-1B. Dr Pramod Karle, who is heading the Indian team of scientists to coordinate the launch, said the extra life is a direct result of launching it from Kourou which lies about at the equator, hence geographically advantageous.

All the three communication satellites launched so far under INSAT-1 system were built by the American corporation. The first in series, INSAT-1A, failed to operate within weeks after its launch in April 1982. INSAT-1B was successfully launched the following year.

INSAT-1C is second Indian spacecraft launched from the European Space Agency's Guiana Space Center at Kourou after APPLE, an experimental communications satellite launched in 1981.

Solar Panels, Antenna Deployed

BK2207070488 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0630 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Within hours of the launch of INSAT-1C satellite, the Indian space scientists have successfully deployed two of its five solar panels and a C-band antenna. As reported earlier, the 1,190 kg satellite was launched from Kourou in French Guiana by the Ariane-3 rocket early this morning.

The separation of INSAT-1C took place over Africa and the first telemetry signal was received by the master control facility at Hassan within 28 minutes of the blastoff. The C-ban antenna and the two solar panels were then released without any hitch.

ISRO sources in Bangalore said the health of the satellite is fine and its response to commands is perfect. In a next major operation to be carried out around 0700 on Monday [25 July], the master control facility will fire the satellite's piggyback motor to take it closer to the final geostationary orbit.

Defense Team To Oversee Guided Missile Program

BK2007091688 Hong Kong AFP in English 0753 GMT 20 Jul 88

[By Pratap Chakravarty]

[Text] New Delhi, July 20 (AFP)—India has formed a team of military experts to oversee the country's ambitious guided-missile program to prevent a recurrence of last week's crash of a satellite launching rocket, officials said Wednesday.

Air Force, Navy and Army experts have been ordered to monitor the Integrated Guided Missile Development Program (IGDMP) to ensure bugs are removed from the development stages of military rockets, military sources said.

A panel grouping all three services would be responsible for the four major guided-missile systems being developed by the state-owned Defence Research and Development Organisation in southern Hyderabad city, the sources said.

The "quality-assurance" panel was set up almost immediately after India's four-tonne augmented satellite launch vehicle plunged into the Bay of Bengal on July 13 some 150 seconds after launch, they said.

"We can not afford a mid-flight failure of IGDMP's SS (surface-to-surface) missiles or a snag in the other IGDMP guided weaponry systems," a defence official said. Last week's crash, involving a failed first-stage rocket, made experts nervous about other flaws in the system, the official added.

The Indian launch vehicle is said by military experts to be able to carry intermediate-range missiles although the government refuses to comment.

Sources said the formation of the panel followed the failure of two launch vehicles in 16 months but officials have not publicly confirmed the link. The first launch vehicle crashed 164 seconds after taking off in March 1987.

The program successfully tested a 250-kilometre (155-mile) range surface-to-surface missile called Prithvi (Earth) in March, making India the fifth country after the United States, the Soviet Union, France and China to develop a missile of that range.

The Prithvi, which can also carry atomic warheads, has not yet been introduced into the country's Armed Forces, sources said.

The Defence Research and Development Organisation plans to build a surface-to-air missile codenamed Akash (Sky) in a bid to reduce heavy imports of Soviet weapons. It is also believed to be in the final stages of developing its first third-generation anti-tank missile called Nag (Cobra), equipped with an infra-red target detector with a range of four kilometres (2.4 miles).

Sources said the new panel would also monitor the organisation's surface multi-barrel rocket system which is also being developed.

The government launched its current missile development program in 1983, some 11 years after India reportedly abandoned Project Devil—set up to build surface-to-air and other missiles and to localise defence production. Project Devil was, sources said at the time, found to be over-ambitious.

The government's Indian State Research Organisation, which is using a European rocket to put an Indian-made 2,100-kilogram (2,645-pound) satellite in orbit Friday, plans to launch its first polar launch satellite vehicle in 1990.

Scheduled to lift a 1,000-kilogram (2,200-pound) remote-sensing satellite, the polar launch vehicle could also qualify as an inter-continental ballistic missile, military analysts said.

India's defence spending reached 9.6 billion dollars—or 20 per cent of total government spending—in 1987-88 and observers expect it to reach about 11.5 billion dollars in 1988-89.

CPI General Secretary Comments on Soviet Reforms

BK2107124188 Delhi PATRIOT in English
15 Jul 88 p 5

[By Debashish Chatterjee]

[Text] CPI General Secretary C. Rajeswara Rao is of the firm opinion that the recent endorsement by the Soviet Communist Party of the wide ranging reforms in their country would "not only enrich the ideal of socialism but also make it attractive to the people in the capitalist countries".

In an interview to this correspondent, the CPI leader said that the communist world would gain a lot from the developments in the Soviet Union and these would strengthen liberation movements in the Third World countries, particularly Namibia and Kampuchea.

Dismissing as slanderous "propaganda" the statements by a section of the imperialists, that the Soviet Union would let these countries down, Mr Rao said that the reforms would lead to a strengthening of the Soviet Union, which in turn would give added help to the liberation movements.

On the issue of the element of private enterprise being introduced in the socialist economy in the Soviet Union, the CPI leader asserted on Wednesday that the new system of group and family contracts in collective and state farms is within the socialist framework. "The incentives are necessary to increase production", he said.

With reference to the Indian Government's justification of privatisation measures in the public sector by drawing parallels with the reforms in the Soviet Union and China, Mr Rao said that the Indian Government "takes some things out of context" and only "increases the burden of the people and the profits of the monopolies". "This (system in India) is capitalism, whereas that is socialism", he asserted.

On the CPI-M leadership's circumspection about the reforms in the Soviet Union, as expressed by General Secretary E.M.S. Namboodiripad and Politburo Member B.T. Ranadive in the press, the CPI leader said that "as yet nobody (in the CPI-M) has come out (officially) against the reforms as such".

On the Soviet support for the Rajiv Gandhi Government and its bearing on the CPI's struggle for the removal of the government from power, Mr Rao said that it is only the Soviet newspaper PRAVDA which has praised the Indian Government's foreign policy and not the internal policies.

Mr Rao said that the CPI has "no quarrel" with the Indian Government's foreign policy but opposes its internal policies and would continue to do so.

Following is the text of the interview:

Question: What is your assessment of the Perestroika (restructuring) and Glasnost (openness) programmes endorsed at the recent CPSU (Communist Party of the Soviet Union) conference?

Answer: Some of the forecasts that were made before the CPSU conference that General Secretary Gorbachev would face resistance on the radical reforms, have been belied. His speech has put clearly how these reforms were being implemented for the last three years and also the

need for their acceleration. The endorsement given by the conference shows that the Soviet Communist Party and the people support these wholeheartedly.

In the matter of Glasnost, this conference has shown for the first time that the Soviet Union is well on the road of free expression of opinion.

Question: What bearing do you think the developments in the Soviet Union have on the communist world and particularly in countries where national liberation struggles are being waged and in the context of Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan?

Answer: We are of the firm opinion that the developments not only enrich the ideal of socialism but also make it attractive to the people in the capitalist countries. Hence the communist movement will gain a lot from this.

We think that a section of imperialists are very much worried that the Perestroika reforms may succeed and that the Soviet state will become much stronger. This will strengthen the Soviet Union and will in turn help the liberation movements in the third world countries.

Regarding the Geneva accord on Afghanistan, the Najib government has got more political strength and the solution of the Namibian problem and the Kampuchean issue will be facilitated by new efforts.

So the propaganda that the Soviet Union would let down these countries fighting against imperialism is a slander. As a mater of fact Comrade Gorbachev has stated very clearly that if Pakistan or the U.S. governments refuse to implement the accord and support the rebels, it would affect the withdrawal of (Soviet) troops.

Question: What significance do you attach to the primacy of the Soviets in the political life of the people?

Answer: One of the important reforms is the separation of the functions of the party and the Soviets. The party would give general guidance and would not interfere in the day-to-day administration and the Soviets would run the administration.

Another thing is that the rule of law has to be implemented and for that purpose, the role of the judiciary is also enhanced. This process will help the people to take a more active part in the political and social life of the country.

Question: How do you view the proposal for a "presidential form" of government?

Answer: Though the president will be given more powers than previously, we cannot call it a presidential system as the president is appointed and is responsible to the Congress of Soviets and can be removed any time, unlike in the U.S. and France where the presidential system in working. [sentence as published]

Question: How do you see fraternal party CPI-M's circumspection about the reforms in the Soviet Union?

Answer: As far as Comrade Namboodiripad is concerned, he has clearly supported the reforms in the Soviet Union. As yet nobody in the CPI-M has come out against the reforms as such.

Question: Considering that your party is waging a struggle along with others to remove the Rajiv Gandhi Government from power, what do you make of the Soviet support and praise for the Indian Government?

Answer: As far as I have read, what has come in PRAVDA is about the foreign policy and not the internal policies. We think he (Rajiv Gandhi) is implementing the country's foreign policy with which we have no quarrel. As regards internal policies, we oppose them. Nothing stands in our way.

Question: What is your assessment of the new political thinking in the Soviet Union, giving universal human values priority over proletarian class values?

Answer: We don't think such a counterpose is made by Comrade Gorbachev.

In the nuclear space age, when human civilisation itself is in danger the human values have acquired greater importance than before. It is a matter of coordinating human and class values for the communists but not counterposing.

Question: What do you think of the introduction of the element of private enterprise in the socialist economy and what relevance could it have on similar moves in the public sector in our country for which easy justifications and parallels are drawn?

Answer: We don't think private enterprise in the Soviet Union is on such a big scale. It is only that some small cafes were allowed and individuals earn something by repairing household appliances. This does not constitute a big thing.

In the factories, there is no private enterprise. Now the managers are elected by the workers instead of being appointed by the state. These factories previously did not have the autonomy to deal with other factories and firms. Now that (autonomy) is given to avoid red tape, this will actually facilitate production.

In the matter of collective and state farms—a new system of group and family contracts has been introduced within its framework. Through this, personal responsibility has been

increased because agriculture requires more personal attention of the farmers. After fulfilling the contract, the excess will go to the farmers. This incentive is necessary to increase agricultural production.

All this is not capitalism as is being stated by some. The essence of socialism is that the factories, farms and other means of production must be the property of the society as a whole. There must not be exploitation and the fruits of labour must be used for expansion and production as well as improving the living standard of the people.

These basic principles are being implemented while some changes are being made in the methods of production. For instance over-centralisation is being given up and personal responsibility of the producer introduced.

The remuneration will depend on the quantity and quality of the work put up by the producer unlike in the past when whether one produced or not, the salaries would be given.

With reference to India, this is capitalism, whereas that is socialism let the Central Government introduce all the exists in the Soviet Union. [sentence as published]

While the capitalist exploitation goes on, some things are taken out of context from the Soviet Union, increasing the burden of the people and profit of the monopolies.

Briefs

Soviet Electric Project

A 400-kilovolt transmission line between Udhampur and Srinagar is to be constructed with Soviet help. An agreement for this has already been finalized. This was disclosed by the energy minister, Mr Vasant Sathe, during a meeting with the Jammu and Kashmir power development minister, Mr Mulla Ram, in New Delhi. The work is expected to be completed in 4 years. [Text] [*BK2107160588 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Jul 88*]

Iran

Khamene'i Delivers Friday Prayers Sermons

LD2207120088 Tehran IRNA in English 1152 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Tehran, July 22, IRNA—President 'Ali Khamene'i today said Iran's acceptance of the U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 was "one of the most important moves in the history of our revolution, whether it results in ceasefire or does not lead to the end of the war due to the enemy's malice." He also stressed that this acceptance however never means that "we have turned away from the main slogans of the Islamic Revolution."

Addressing a huge crowd of Muslim worshippers at Tehran University campus and its nearby streets, the president added that the new stance adopted by the leader of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeyni had surprised the world and at the same time displayed "the moral and spiritual courage of the leadership" and "proved his attachment to the interests of Islam."

The Tehran worshippers shouted enthusiastic slogans demanding the liberation of the holy sanctuaries in Mecca and Al-Madinah from "the claws of the enemies of Islam" and also declared full support for Imam Khomeyni's latest message on hajj and the Security Council Resolution 598.

President Khamene'i who is leader of Friday prayers in the capital, said Iranians were among "the most intelligent and the most political" peoples in the world, adding that their obedience to the leadership "shows our nation's unique unity" as well as their union with the imam at this sensitive juncture.

He said the Iranian army and the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps had obeyed the imam's order despite their eagerness to demonstrate their power in the war fronts and "rub the enemy's nose in the dirt."

The president said the world was wrong in its analyses over Iran's endorsement of the ceasefire resolution and reiterated that the move was in the interest of the Islamic system and revolution.

He said the factors leading to Iran's approval of the resolution were nothing to hide from the nation, but added that they would temporarily remain undisclosed to deprive the enemy of information. He said the reasons that Iran had acccepted the resolution would, God willing, soon be disclosed for the information of the Iranian people.

President Khamene'i also accused the Baghdad regime of "dishonesty" in accepting the ceasefire resolution and said Iraq was looking for pretexts in the implementation of the Resolution 598. He said these Iraqi pretexts may cause a delay in the implementation of the Security Council resolution but he noted that it will also cause "the world to realise the aggressive and war-mongering nature of (Iraqi ruler) Saddam Husayn's regime."

Referring to his last night's telephone conversation with Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the president said he was told by him that "Saddam wants peace not ceasefire."

"We told the Libyan leader that if Iraq wants peace, any peace (normally) starts with a ceasefire and that Saddam is looking after pretexts," Hojj. Khamene'i said. He repeated Imam Khomeyni's remark that Iran's acceptance of the ceasefire resolution was not "tactical."

Elsewhere in his remarks, the president described Iraq's request for direct negotiations as "only another pretext" and said direct talks in the course of the work could also take place but setting it as a condition was nothing more than an excuse.

The president said by raising these pretexts, the Ba'thist rulers in Baghdad probably want to continue the war and therefore he urged the people to be ever vigilant and protect the country's borders against enemy plots. "The present trend in the war front must continue and our forces must be on the alert to thwart any enemy ploy," he stressed.

President Khamene'i also strongly lashed out at those who claimed the acceptance of the ceasefire resolution was a blow to Iran's national prestige and said "the very fact that our nation, without receiving any assistance from any power, stood against a regime backed by the world, is in itself a great national honor."

Khomeyni Says Nation Seeks 'Lasting Peace'

LD2207110888 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] This morning Mr Mohsen Reza'i, the commander in chief of the IRGC, was received by Imam Khomeyni, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and had a meeting with his eminence. In this meeting, the commander in chief of the IRGC delivered a report on the situation on the battlefronts to the imam of the ummah. Imam Khomeyni then said the following:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The Foreign Ministry is in charge of political affairs related to the war but affairs pertaining to the battlefronts should be dealt with by military, security, and popular forces, under the supervision of the General Command Headquarters of the Armed Forces. As we have said already: We speak openly to our people. We think in terms of a lasting peace within the framework of Resolution No 598 and this is in no way a tactic. However, the fighters of the army of Islam should be prepared to give an appropriate response to the evil enemy if the latter embarks on attacks.

My revolutionary children, you should note that today is the day of being ever present on the fronts. You should not think that the war has come to an end. Arm yourself with the weapons of faith and jihad. The tyrannical enemy does not deserve any mercy and whatever these people say is a deception. We wanted to prove to the world that Saddam does not believe in international forums and until Iraq accepts the resolution, we shall answer the enemies of Islam on the battlefronts.

IRGC Commander Reza'i on Supporting UN Resolution

LD2107111288 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Mr Mohsen Reza'i, commander in chief of the IRGC, announced the IRGC's support for the acceptance of the Security Council's Resolution No 598. Our correspondent reports that Mr Mohsen Reza'i, commander in chief of the IRGC, announced today: The IRGC supports the decision of the political officials of the country to accept Resolution No 598, which was made with the approval of the leader of the revolution. As in the past, the IRGC is prepared to defend the country and safeguard Islam and the revolution.

Addressing the peace-seekers of yesterday and the warmongerers of today, Mr Reza'i said: The IRGC of today is the same IRGC of yesterday, and the superpowers and their supporters will die disbelieving in the existence of the IRGC. The IRGC's commander in chief stressing the need for the presence of popular forces on the fronts and said: The war has not yet come to an end and the enemy may at any moment begin a new offensive. Addressing international organizations, he said: If there is the the slightest violation of the articles mentioned in the resolution, we will remain on the scene with all our might in order to respond to any kind of aggression.

In conclusion, the IRGC commander in chief thanked and expressed appreciation for the efforts of Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, acting commander in chief of the armed forces, the serving government, and officials of the country in supporting the fighters.

Further on Reza'i Remarks

LD2107133288 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With blessings I salute to the imam of the ummah; and to the respected messages of the martrys, the crippled, the POW's and all those who have devoted their lives to the everlasting Islamic ideology. Taking note of the existing sensitive conditions of the country, I have deemed it necessary to inform the martyr-nurturing ummah about my views and those of the dear IRGC brothers.

Now that the esteemed political officials of the republican order of our country have made a decision for a cease-fire, and this move has been approved by the esteemed leader, we genuinely support this decision which has been made in order to safeguard the interests of the revolution, society, and the country.

Just as his excellency said, the war has not come to an end yet. The aggressor enemy of yesterday and peace-seeker of today may, at any moment, begin a new operation as the aggressor. I call on all my IRGC and mobilized brothers to strongly maintain their active presence in the trenches and the scenes and to crush any kind of aggression. We announnce to all international organizations: You have seen our steadfastness, patience, and resistance on the battlefronts, and you have tested these.

If there should be the slightest political play, the slightest violation in the regulations that our officials have set down and declared, then we will be on the scene with all our strength and are prepared to respond to any kind of aggression, thanks to God, and to repulse the aggressor. Of course, we will give the military reasons for the latest events when suitable opportunities arise. God willing, in those reports we will include detailed statistics and information, that is, the reasons behind the recent events.

In conclusion, we express our thanks and appreciation for the efforts of the Government of the Islamic Republic which has served the nation and the fighters and also for the round-the-clock efforts of my dear chief, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, and also the dear officials of the country's order who worked and struggled in support of the fighters. We also thank the esteemed families of the martyrs who have tolerated these years of war with revolutionary patience and who have continued the path of the dear children and have linked it to the present struggle. We appreciate and thank their patience and steadfastness.

Gen Shahbazi Cables Support Message to Khomeyni

NC2207064088 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Following the Islamic Republic's acceptance of UN Resolution No 598, the chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Repubic of Iran sent a cable to the imam of the ummah yesterday. The text of the cable is as follows:

To the auspicious presence of the great leader of the revolution and the great commander in chief, His Holiness Imam Khomeyni, may your blessings continue.

As you know, in carrying out their shari'a duties that include complete obedience to the rule of jurisconsult and the implementation of the strategy of sacred defense drawn up by Your Holiness, the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran have always fought with all their might and have proven their eternal promise to and everlasting pact with the great leader.

Now that at the discretion of the lofty leader the continuation of the sacred defense for dear Islam calls for adopting new positions, I wish to emphasize the fact that the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran will, as in the past, strive to continue to preserve their combat capability and to expand their necessary abilities in order to implement the divine teachings which they are proud to do for the Islamic Republic. They will always be ready to carry out the historic decrees of the great Imam.

The Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran believe that by enjoying the support of Your Lofty Excellency, they will preserve their power as the backbone of the strategy drawn up by the alert leadership of the revolution. They confidently hope that the directives issued will always be the source of blessings and used for the elevation of Islam and its interests.

[Signed] Chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran Brigadier General 'Ali Shahbazi

USSR's Vorontsov Continues Visit to Tehran

LD2107175388 Tehran IRNA in English 1659 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Tehran, July 21, IRNA—Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov, currently here at the head of a delegation, met with President 'Ali Khamene'i here Thursday.

During the meeting, also attended by Deputy Foreign Minister for Euro-American Affairs Mohamad-Javad Larijani, Vorontsov strongly condemned the July 3 U.S. downing of Iran Air Flight 655 that killed all 290 passengers and crew aboard, as an "act of barbarity". Vorontsov also conveyed to President Khamene'i the Soviet leadership's sympathies for the bereaved families of victims of the U.S. crime.

The Soviet deputy foreign minister, saying that the prospect for Tehran-Moscow cooperation is bright, called for promotion of mutual ties in various fields.

In response, President Khamene'i thanked the Soviet leadership for expressing sympathy on the unmanly U.S. downing of the Iranian passenger jet. He said that Tehran-Moscow cooperation necesssitates widescale activities in the economic, technical and cultural fields on the basis of mutual interests.

Commenting on the Iraqi-imposed war, he said the resistance and self-reliance of the Iranian Muslim people during the conflict has served in perpetually strengthening their national pride. Iran's Muslim people, the president said, enjoy profound faith in Islam besides having a firm determination to overcome all difficulties facing them.

In a separate meeting here today, Vorontsov held talks with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati on ways of expanding Tehran-Moscow relations. Vorontsov also informed Velayati of his country's desire for promotion of bilateral ties in various fields.

Velayati thanked the Soviet Union for its stance against the criminal U.S. downing of Iran Air flight 655 over the Persian Gulf and for its willingness to expand Tehran-Moscow ties.

Iran Air Airbus A-300 en route to Dubayy from Bandar-e 'Abbas exploded in mid-air and crashed into Persian Gulf waters on being hit by two surface-to-air missiles from the cruiser "USS Vincennes". All 290 passengers and crew aboard, including 66 children and 38 foreigners were martyred.

[Tehran Domestic Service in Persian at 1630 GMT on 21 July, reporting President Khamene'i's meeting with Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vorontsov, notes: "President Khamene'i pointed out that the Iranian nation is strong, resistant, and self-sacrificing and has defended itself without help from any country throughout 8 years of the imposed war, against a regime which has been helped by both East and West.

"He added: The people's steadfastness in this war, without help from any other country, has laid the foundations for a sense of national pride that will be felt by our people for a long time to come. Even if this war continues, our people will still have the same feelings of strength and resistance and the same decisive resolve in the face of global arrogance.

"The president added: In addition to a decisive will and resolve, our nation also benefits from deep faith and religion. In spite of all the problems imposed on this nation, and still being imposed, it is capable of defending itself well."]

Concludes Visit, Departs

LD2207111288 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] At noon today, Yuliy Vorontsov, USSR deputy foreign minister, left Tehran for Moscow. He was seen off by Mr Larijani, deputy foreign minister in charge of U.S. and European affairs.

As leader of a political delegation to Tehran, Vorontsov had talks with President Khamene'i and Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati on the important regional issues.

In an interview at the airport Mr Larijani referred to the talks held between the two parties and said: In these talks we reassessed major regional issues and bilateral relations.

Referring to Iran's commitment to maintain peace and security he said: Relying on its power and commitment, the Islamic Republic of Iran will not allow the Iraqi regime to play with the security of the region. We informed the Soviet authorities of this point. He also said: Major powers cannot ignore the interests of great nations.

Foreign Ministry on UN Airbus Resolution

NC2207061988 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 22 Jul 88

["Text" of statement issued by the Islamic Republic's Foreign Ministry on the UN Security Council resolution on the downing of the Iranian airbus]

[Text] In the name of the Almighty. After 5 days of debates, discussions, and expressed views between representatives of various countries of the world on the tragedy of the downing of the Islamic Republic's passenger plane by a U.S. warship, the UN Security Council ended its work by issuing a resolution with little content and little effect, and with clear signs of the influence of the United States—the main perpetrator of this massacre which is also responsible for having made civilian air routes unsafe.

The Security Council, which met at the Islamic Republic's request to investigate this savage act by the United States, faced a serious test as far as the adoption of a just stand on this shocking tragedy was concerned. With the participation in this Council of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which submitted strong reasons and precise documents that did not leave room for the least bit of doubt on the role of the United States as the perpetrator of this crime, the Security Council placed its respect, as far as the approach to a humanitarian issue was concerned, before the judgment of the world.

However, the Security Council unfortunately showed how weak it is in investigating the crimes of a country which is a permanent member and has the right of veto. It showed the distance it stands from justice, even when it concerns a tragedy such as the attack on a passenger plane flying in an internationally recognized route and the deaths of 290 innocent men, women, and children. And this distance is because of the influence exercised by a superpower, its threat to use its right of veto, and the political considerations of its allies.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran emphasizes that the Security Council's resolution on the tragedy of the downing of the Iranian airbus is a major weak point in the council's activities in carrying out the duties assigned to it by the UN Charter. It states that the condemnation of the United States as the perpetrator of this crime and the withdrawal of foreign forces from the Persian Gulf in order to prevent the repetition of such tragedies are what the Islamic Republic of Iran and all the people of the world who value the lives of innocent passengers who use civilian flights request.

The Security Council, because of the presence of an expansionist superpower such as the United States, whose role in destroying the security of civilian flights over it has been proven, is even incapable of clearly acknowledging such a humanitarian request and international right.

Karrubi Addresses Rally on Mecca Anniversary
NC2207042588 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1740 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Speech by Mehdi Karrubi, deputy speaker of the Islamic Majlis and the imam's hajj representative and supervisor of pilgrims, in Tehran on 21 July—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Our hallowed movement, the wave which was the export of our revolution, this culmination of thought and opinion, invoked dread, perturbation, and fear in the world of blasphemy. The reactionaries and their masters mobilized themselves in haste. With apprehension, all joined in a united front against the revolution and rose up to dismantle it and undermine its leadership. They embarked on satanic and diabolical schemes, as they had done in the past.

However, their machinations proved ineffective. Warmongering, coups d'etat, the Iraqi war against Iran, the aggression by the criminal Saddam, the deviant groups—the rightists, leftists, and splinter groups—all created problems for us. But they could not hamper or hinder the export of the revolution, the propagation of thought, and the spread of the revolution to the ears of the world.

The revolution spread like lightning, it was so full of fervor and charisma. Despite all the degradation and disgrace, the satanism and propaganda of the world, it peaked and reached the ears of the people of the world. It emerged as a tidal wave. One of the points on which the imam focused attention was the hajj as a platform for the export of the revolution and a forum which should be exploited to the maximum for the benefit of Islam and the Muslims, with its atmosphere and the presence of more than 1 million Muslims from all over the world at the two holy mosques.

With special preparation and attention the imam emphasized that during the hajj rituals political issues should be raised, with hajj performed in the manner of Abraham. Hajj should be Islamic in the manner that the guiding imams, the religious leaders, desire. This is the hajj to which Imam Sadeq called the people during his leadership; which should incorporate the disavowal of the pagans; which should include marches and demonstrations; which invites Muslims to unity and solidarity; which provides a forum for airing Muslims' problems and the issues of the Muslim world and their miseries. This is real hajj, Mohammadan hajj. [cheers] [passage omitted]

The pride of the enemies of Islam was shattered beside the house of God, in the center of monotheism, and was toppled. The oppressed people, the devout Muslims from all over the world of Islam, displayed immense valor, steadfastness, and experience, and when they returned to their respective countries each shone like a brilliant light, a source of virtue and blessings, becoming a propagator of real and pure Islam. Thus, they created problems and difficulties for reactionary and anti-Islamic governments.

Our enemy realized that its contacts with governments were ineffective, that the threats made to pilgrims, warning them against having anything to do with Iranians were futile. Appeals that the pilgrims not mingle with Iranians proved useless. [passage omitted]

They [the Saudis] decided that with repression, massacre, and an onslaught in the vicinity of the house of God on the 6th of Dhu al-Hijjah, a Friday evening, Muslim men and women should be martyred, that they should kill the families of martyrs, that they should martyr noble persons, thereby putting an end to the issue. However, they did not know—as the imam had said—that each Muslim would be a publicist and would spread pure Islamic thought to the world, revealing their observations and the crimes they had witnessed. It was not long before these Muslims went all over the world and issued statements through the media. These are the evidence of the crimes of the Al Sa'ud which you heard about and which have benefited Islam.

You heard in the hallowed Palestinian lands that some Palestinians were also martyred ruthlessly in the incident. When the Palestinians returned to their homeland and spoke in the mosques of Al Sa'ud's atrocity, the people poured onto the streets from mosques and Islamic centers and began shouting slogans in favor of the Islamic Republic and against the Al Sa'ud. [passage omitted]

The blessing of our sacred movement, the export of the revolution, and the consolidation of the Islamic Republic inspired the marches and demonstrations of the Palestinian Muslim people, patterned on what they had witnessed among the Iranian people. They had seen the crimes of the Al Sa'ud, and they knew who defended their rights and who opposed them and raised false slogans.

They prevented our going; today we are deprived of visiting the house of God. But rest assured our hearts are there, our thoughts are there, and the hearts of the pilgrims to the house of God are filled with thoughts of you, dear ones. Rest assured that even though you do not have the privilege of visiting the house of God you have attained before God the recompense, the blessings, and the rewards of the pilgrimage, because you are suffering this deprivation for God, for Islam, for the Islamic revolution, for your defense of Muslims, and for your disavowal of the enemies of Islam.

All over the Islamic world and the non-Islamic world the news is circulating that the crime of the Al Sa'ud has been exposed, as has been the face which had been

masked with an Islamic facade through money doled out to mercenary and servile clerics and through sums expended for propagation and publications.

The thick mask was ripped off and the repulsive face exposed. You see and hear that in the United States—the center of blasphemy and satanism—Muslim sisters are staging sit-ins outside the Saudi Arabian Embassy, the Hijaz embassy, protesting prevention of the hajj for Iranians and non-Iranians and the banning of the march of disavowal of pagans.

They [the Saudis] are the scourge of society, setting fire to pigrims' belongings. The imam wanted this thought to proliferate in the world of Islam, to grow and climax so that their false and filthy faces may be revealed to the Islamic nations. And praise be to God it is being revealed and will continue to be revealed. The truth is being increasingly revealed. This is what you wanted, and this is what the imam wanted. He had said that the war against our revolution was a war against an ideology, against Islam and monotheism. Thus, for us there can be no defeat of the consolidation of Islam. Defeat is unthinkable. Such a war goes on and cannot end; it will continue ad infinitum! It opens the paths for public thought. [passage omitted]

I will conclude succinctly, mentioning some points regarding his eminence the imam's message issued yesterday. This message concerns hajj and martyrdom of the dear pilgrims and commemorates the anniversary of the disaster. It is a message for Iranian and non-Iranian Muslims. [passage omitted]

The imam stressed that the archsatan is the United States. Even though the Soviet Union and the United States have both wrought tyranny against us and rained missiles on us, we have fought them. So they gave all their facilities to our enemies. With its animosity and hostility against the Islamic revolution the Soviet Union also proved its true nature and blackened its face forever.

However, the United States, the arch-Satan, is our real enemy. The United States controlled the shah and subjected our nation to torture for years; it pillaged our wealth; its embassy was a center for espionage and plots against the revolution. Internal warmongering was linked to the United States. The instigation of Saddam's crime through the services of regional reactionaries was implemented by the United States. The dear ones in our Navy in the Persian Gulf, in the IRGC, on our oil platforms, on our ships, and on our passenger planes have been destroyed at the hands of the criminal United States. Our people have been martyred. All repression was unleashed on us, but with the assistance of God we will take revenge on them. [cheers]

The United States brought its forces, its numerous warships, to the Persian Gulf and persuaded Europeans and others to follow suit. Now we repeat the imam's warning to them. In his statement the imam warned the United States to depart, before it is too late. We are very patient, awaiting an opportune moment. It should take this chance to take its trappings and go, otherwise we will create a cemetery, a hell for it. [cheers]

I shall mention briefly, as the imam has noted, as the revered officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran have stated, that we accepted the resolution. [passage omitted] We accepted the resolution, but we will wait and see now what they will do about the aggressor. They all know who is the aggressor, who initiated the war. How will the committee be formed; how will it conduct itself; will it sincerely name Saddam the aggressor; will they condemn him? Will they do what has been stipulated in the resolution or not?

Of course our nation is aware of its responsibility. The acceptance of the resolution is decreed by the imam, and for us it is (?binding). My next point is that our nation should maintain its readiness and presence, knowing that even though the war may end, the animosity, malice, and hostility toward the revolution have not ended.

O brothers and sisters, until we part with our principles—and we never shall with the assistance of God—there will always be animosity and hatred toward us. [passage omitted]

Ceremonies Mark Anniversary of Mecca 'Attack'
LD2107185688 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] On 21 July, the anniversary of the attack of the rulers of the house of Al Sa'ud against the pilgrims to the holy sanctuary—which led to the martyrdom of over 400 pilgrims to the house of God—thousands of Muslim people of Tehran, in a splendid gathering in Imam Husayn Square, commemorated the memory of the martyrs of honorable Mecca. They declared their support for the recent statement by the imam of the ummah, and stressed the need to defend the lofty interests of Islam and the leadership of Imam Khomeyni.

According to Central News Unit report, people carried placards in the splendid ceremonies, condemning the members of the house of Al Sa'ud and bearing the message "The Ka'bah is soaked with blood." They chanted slogans such as "O Muhammad, they have killed the pilgrim of God," "May the hand of Fahd be cut off," "Fahd, Fahd, Shame," and "God is our helper, Khomeyni is our leader." They also honored the memory of those honorable martyrs, and demanded the downfall of the house of Al Sa'ud and the liberation of Mecca and Al Madinah from the claws of Zionism.

According to our correspondent, mourning ceremonies took place, attended by a number of Majlis deputies, cabinet members, the representative of Grand Ayatollah Montazeri, families of martyrs, of those missing in action, and of POW's, and several officials. Mr Karrubi,

deputy speaker of the Majlis and the representative of his eminence the imam for hajj and the supervisor of Iranian pilgrims, then delivered a passionate speech amidst chants of "Imam, we have heard your cry; we have accepted it with heart and soul".

He presented an analysis of the current state of the world of Islam and of liberation movements in various countries, describing the influence of the Islamic Revolution on other countries. He described the current situation as a product of the Islamic Republic's leadership. Referring to the fact that the Islamic Republic of Iran has great duties now with respect to various matters, Mr Karrubi emphasized the responsibility of every single Iranian. He described the mission of Muslims in current world conditions as very sensitive.

He said: The reactionaries and their masters have mobilized themselves so that they can undermine our blood-soaked revolution, although they were busy even before this. One of the points which was on the mind of our imam and which he always emphasized as a platform for the awareness of Muslims was the hajj issue.

Mr Karrubi referred to the conspiracies of the house of Al Sa'ud for deceiving Muslims and said: In the hajj incident, when they felt that the march could no longer be controlled and that the hajj had found its base among Muslims, they began imposing certain limitations. Surrounding the marchers, they set about killing them and, in God's holy sanctuary, they shed the blood of the purest human beings. In their own minds they suppressed the movement. However, God be praised, our enemies are the most stupid people.

The supervisor of Iranian pilgrims said: The house of Al Sa'ud thought that with the killing of the pilgrims to the house of God, the matter would be closed. They did not realize, however, that each one of them would be a publicist and that they would publicize the crime of the house of Al Sa'ud. Therefore, although we are deprived of going to the house of God today, our hearts are there, nevertheless.

He stressed that our revolution is an ideological revolution. It does not recognize geographical borders and it opens the way for world public opinion.

In conclusion, Mr Karrubi referred to the historical message of the imam of the ummah and said: As God is my witness, dozens of writers and dozens of scribes would not have been enough to write such a message. The message ought to be drawn up as a law. He also stressed the need for greater assistance to the families of martyrs and he praised their role in advancing the aims of the Islamic Revolution.

Tehran Notes Slogans of Mecca Pilgrims
LD2107175488 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] The Central News Unit, quoting news received from Hijaz, reports that on Tuesday and Wednesday this week a large number of statements and (?placards) in various languages were distributed among the prayer-givers and pilgrims in different parts of Mecca.

These tracts contain parts of the statement by Imam Khomeyni and slogans such as "Cut the hands of the criminals of the House of Al Sa'ud from the holy sanctuaries," "The victimised pilgrims of Iran have been barred from the pilgrimage by the house of Al Sa'ud because they sought disavowal," and "The massacre of the pilgrims of the house of God by the apostate regime of the house of Al Sa'ud will not remain unanswered."

Report on Amrollahi's News Conference on Bushehr
LD2007190088 Tehran IRNA in English 1845 GMT 20 Jul 88

[Text] Tehran, July 20, IRNA—The Iraqi regime unveiled its war-mongering visage for the whole world and international circles to see, less than 24 hours after Iran's formal acceptance of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598.

Reza Amrollahi, head of Iran's Atomic Energy Organization (IAEO) said in a press conference here today that Baghdad seems unwilling to end its almost 8-year old war against the Islamic Republic.

Although Iraq's representative at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) had said no attack would be carried out on the Bushehr nuclear power plant—after last November's attacks—Iraqi warplanes bombed the Bushehr plant yesterday for the eighth time over the past four years, Amrollahi noted.

Amrollahi reminded of IAEA Resolutions Number 407, 409, 444, and 475 which explicitly prohibit military attacks or even threats of air raids on nuclear installations of any country and said violations of these resolutions are tantamount to the breaching of United Nations charter and the IAEA constitution as well.

He said, IAEA Director-General Hans Blix, has been informed of all Iraqi attacks on the Bushehr nuclear power plant and expressed hope that IAEA would despatch probe team to estimate the damge and accordingly take appropriate measures.

The IAEO head called on all global circles the IAEA in particular, to officially condemn Iraqi attacks on the plant. He urged concerned bodies not to let their unwarranted silence further embolden the Iraqi regime, because he added, silence would be a threat to nuclear installations for peaceful purposes anywhere around the world.

Amrollahi in his letter to the IAEA director-general yesterday had termed the Iraqi attack on the Bushehr nuclear power plant as an "open treason" against Resolution 598.

Iraqi, U.S. Lack of 'Positive' Response Noted

NC2107101888 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Commentary prepared by the Central News Unit's Research Group]

[Excerpts] Following the Iraqi regime's fresh attacks on a number of our country's economic installations, the UN Security Council held a special meeting during which it stressed that the two sides should display utmost moderation in order to facilitate the secretary general's efforts. The Tuesday meeting of the Security Council was held at the immediate request of our country. [passage omitted]

Diplomatic sources at the UN have pointed out that Iran's most recent complaint and the Security Council's positive answer to it can be regarded as a primary success scored by Tehran, and that if the Iraqi Government does not reduce its attacks it will be condemned for rejecting the true implementation of Resolution 598. This resolution calls for a cease-fire, the return of forces to international borders, the exchange of POW's, and, most important of all, the formation of an investigative group which will study the reasons for the outbreak of the war.

These sources believe that the Iraqi regime wants, by intensifying its military pressures, to affect the Security Council's next round of talks, and especially the outcome of the studies of the investigative group. This is because, in view of world public opinion and the official and unofficial stand of many countries that are currently Security Council members, there is no doubt that the Iraqi regime started the war.

Meanwhile, political analysts believe that the announcement of Iran's official and final stand on accepting Resolution 598 both surprised the world and created unforeseen circumstances for many countries. Although since the beginning the Iraqi regime had been portraying itself as a supporter of the resolution, during the political developments of the past few days it has been unable to find a clear stand for itself, and the Iraqi officials are now considering whether the word-for-word implementation of Resolution 598 will be to their benefit.

It was within this context that Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz pointed out that the war will continue as long as Iran's main motives are not clarified. Tariq 'Aziz's remarks were actually very similar to remarks made by U.S. officials. A White House spokesman said: We should act very cautiously because we do not know what Iran's reasons and motives are. Also, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz added, in relation to this, that U.S. ships will continue to be in the Persian Gulf and that no one is thinking of reducing these forces in the near future.

All these remarks show that the Iraqi regime and the United States have not yet been able to react positively to the shock they received when Iran accepted Resolution 598. It is clear that the Islamic Republic of Iran wants a just, respectable, and lasting peace which will return security to the region. However, until the achievement of this goal and in view of the recent military attempts by the Iraqi regime in attacking a number of economic units, our country's people should continue to preserve their revolutionary alertness. They should, by strengthening the fronts and by neutralizing the psychological war being waged by the enemies of Islam, decrease and eliminate the possibility of other steps and aggressions by the enemies.

Special Equipment Convoy Leaves for Fronts

LD2107200088 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report from Shahr-e Kord, a special equipment convoy of 60 trucks, named the "Martyrs of 7 Tir" [28 June], loaded with goods worth 40 million rials, left from Borujerd town in Chahar Mahall va Bakhtiari Province for the fronts of the battle of justice against injustice.

Combat Operations in War With Iraq Continue

Communique No 3,270

LD2107163588 Tehran IRNA in English 1620 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Tehran, July 21, IRNA—Iranian air force jets on their patrol flights over the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman Wednesday reconnoitered 39 vessels of various types including cargo ships, oil tankers, tug boats, launchers and warships, according to a communique here today.

The 3270th Joint Staff communique said that Iranian naval units in addition to carrying out patrol missions in the territorial and international waters yesterday, controlled shipping in the Strait of Hormuz. They also continued their search for the missing bodies of martyrs of the July 3 U.S. downing of an Iran Air Airbus A-300.

On the battlefields, an undetermined number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and several enemy gun emplacements, tanks and vehicles were destroyed in artillery duels with Iranian Muslim combatants Wednesday.

Iranian artillery fire checked movement of Iraqi motorized and armoured units in hajj 'Umran, Panjwin, Sar Dasht, Baneh, Qasr-e Shirin, Sumar, Khosravi, Helaleh, Kani-Sheykh and Mandali yesterday as a result of which heavy losses were inflicted on the enemy.

Iraqi engineering operations in Kharratha, Sumar and Maymak, western fronts, were halted by Iranian artillery fire yesterday, concluded the communique.

IRGC Issues Communique

LD2107181088 Tehran IRNA in English 1741 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Tehran, July 21, IRNA—Iran's Muslim combatants smashed two Iraqi offensives on Bizel [placename as received] heights and the Hawr al-Hawizah marshlands, western sector, Thursday, killing and wounding dozens of enemy soldiers and capturing 10 others including some officers and NCO's, said a communique here today.

The communique, released by the central headquarters of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC), said that several Iraqi boats and some armoured hardware were also destroyed during the crushed assaults.

Despite the Islamic Republic's acceptance of U.N. Resolution 598 calling for ceasefire in the Iraqi war, the enemy which until now had feigned peace, has responded with further aggressions.

Iraq Launches New Attacks

LD2207074188 Tehran IRNA in English 0733 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Tehran, July 22, IRNA—Despite the acceptance of the Security Council Resolution 598 by the Islamic Republic of Iran, the war-mongering regime in Baghdad is once again displaying to the entire world its mischievous nature by launching fresh aggressions against Iran's homeland.

Reports reaching here indicate that Iraqi troops have launched new aggressions in several battlefields in the northern and southern sectors of the war front, since the early hours of this morning.

Iran's Muslim combatants are reportedly engaged in ongoing fighting with the enemy troops and have inflicted heavy losses and casualties on the aggressor Iraqis.

Meanwhile, an IRNA report from Ahvaz, Khuzestan Province said that intruding Iraqi planes violated the airspace over the city at 06:40 and 08:20 hours local time (03:10 and 04:50 GMT) today but were forced to flee by Iran's heavy anti-aircraft fire.

Iraq Occupies 3 Border Towns

LD2207081888 Tehran IRNA in English 0814 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Tehran, July 22, IRNA—The aggressor Iraqi regime today occupied three Iranian border towns in the west of the country by resorting to extensive use of internationally-banned chemical weapons.

The aggressor Baghdad regime which is creating new obstacles on the way of implementation of the U.N. Security Council 598, today resorted to extensive use of chemical weapons in the western fronts and occupied Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, Khosravi, and Qasr-e Shirin after crossing the international border.

The enemy sustained heavy casualties and losses in the early stage of its aggression due to the heroic resistance put up by iranian forces and for this reason the Iraqis deployed lethal substances to force them to retreat.

A number of Iranian forces were affected by enemy chemical gases and immediately moved behind the fronts. Battle is still raging in the area.

Iraq Chemically Bombs Towns

LD2207090488 Tehran IRNA in English 0758 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Tehran, July 22, IRNA—Tens of civilians were injured when Iraq planes dropped chemical bombs on two villages in western Iran today.

Enemy planes violated the air space over Bakhtaran Province at 08:00 hours (04:30 GMT) this morning and dropped chemical bombs on the villages of Zarneh and Sarmil [placenames as received] near the Karand and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab towns respectively.

Sar-e Pol-e Zahab is one of the three Iranian border towns Iraq occupied today in a new display of aggression while international efforts are underway to establish a ceasefire between the two warring countries.

Scores of civilians, including children and women were [transmission break]

Iraqis Occupy Qasr-e Shirin

LD2207113688 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Since dawn today, the warmongering Iraqi regime has made extensive use of chemical weapons in its aggression on the border area on several axes in the south and the west of the country. It once again revealed its mischievious and warmongering spirit by capturing parts our Islamic homeland in the south and the west.

According to IRNA and the Central News Unit reports, since dawn today fresh units of the III Corps of the Iraqi aggressor army, supported by intense artillery fire, committed aggression against the positions of the fighters of Islam in the southern areas of the country. They were confronted with the resistant forces of Islam. However, they continued their advance inside Iranian territory in an unmanly manner by extensively using chemical weapons. Fighting between the forces of Islam and the aggressor Iraqi forces continues.

During the course of these encounters, a number of units of the 18th Infantry, 11th Infantry, 3d Armored, 41st Infantry, and 69th Armored Divisions of the III Corps of the Iraqi Army sustained heavy casualties and damage.

According to reports heavy fighting between the aggressor forces and the defenders of the Islamic homeland continues near (?Changuleh), southeast of Mehran.

Another report states that fresh forces of the Iraqi II Corps have committed aggression at the border areas in the west of the country, extensively using chemical weapons. After heavy fighting with the fighters of Islam they occupied the city of Qasr-e Shirin.

During the course of this battle, units from the 2d Divison and 4th Infantry Divison, the 10th, 12th and 17th Armored Divisions, the 5th Mechanized Division of the II Corps, and units from the Republican Guards Division sustained heavy casualties and damage. The occupying forces are now advancing toward Sar-e Pol-e Zahab.

According to another report from the west of the country, units of the I Corps of the aggressor Iraqi army embarked at dawn today on an attack in the frontier region of Sar Dasht, but were repulsed because of the bravery and alertness of the fighters of Islam. After suffering heavy damage and casualties, the enemy was forced to retreat.

According to a General Command Headquarters report, during battles between the fighters of Islam and the aggressor Iraqi army today, more than 5,000 enemy forces have been either killed or wounded, and 750 taken prisoner. Among the dead is (Salim Muhammad 'Ali Hammudi), commander of the 5th Brigade of the 4th Infantry Division.

During these battles, two aircraft and two helicopters of the enemy were downed in the southern operational zone by the fighters of Islam. The pilots were killed.

100 Tanks, APC's Destroyed

LD2207120688 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Dear listeners, before continuing the news reports, we inform you that during today's warmongering activities by the aggressor Iraqi Army, the Iraqi forces had 100 tanks and personnel carriers destroyed by the fighters of Islam.

Iraqi Aircraft Overfly Hamadan

LD2207104388 Tehran IRNA in English 1029 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Hamadan, July 22, IRNA—Intruding Iraqi planes violated the air space over this western city at 10:07 hours local time (06:37 GMT) today. The enemy aircraft were forced to flee when faced with Iran's anti-aircraft fire, before carrying out any operations.

Khomeyni Told Regime in Danger of Collapse

TA2107182188 (Clandestine) Flag of Freedom Radio in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Informed sources in Tehran are saying that as Ruhollah Khomeyni himself has reiterated, he still wants the war to continue. The reason he accepted Security Council Resolution No 598 is that his closest advisers told him that if he does not accept the UN cease-fire, his regime will fall. It was in order to save the regime that Khomeyni agreed to the cease-fire, not for the sake of (?saving) Iran from the plague of war.

Feda'i-ye Khalq Statement on Proposed Cease-Fire

LD2107131388 (Clandestine) Radio of the Iranian Toilers in Persian 0230 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Statement of the Central Committee of the Feda'i-ye Khalq Iran Organization on the acceptance of UN Resolution No 598, issued 18 July 1988]

[Text] The regime's submission to Resolution No 598 is a great victory for the people of Iran. On Monday, 18 July, the Islamic Republic announced its acceptance of Security Council Resolution No 598. The Central Committee of the Feda'i-ye Khalq Iran Organization, majority wing, CCFKIOMW, with the greatest delight and pleasure, sincerely offers congratulations to the suffering and war stricken peoples of Iran and Iraq on the occasion of the failure of the warmongering positions of the [Islamic] regime leaders, their submission to the will and demand of the heroic people of Iran, and the opening of a window of peace between Iran and Iraq.

Now, after 8 years of tragic continuation of the war and 6 years since the withdrawal of the Iraqi aggressive forces from our homeland's territory—after the death of more than 1 million innocent people from both countries, after forcing so many children to cross minefields, after so many insane bombings and missile attacks, and after sacrificing thousands of people in chemical warfare—at last the criminal Khomeyni regime submitted to the will and desire of the suffering people of Iran and Iraq and all peace-loving circles of the world and agreed to an unconditional cease-fire, which was the objective of all our people.

Today our homeland is celebrating because on the one hand, a path has been opened for peace, and on the other, there are strong feelings of anger and hatred because of all the pain and grief the regime imposed on the people.

It was quite possible for the regime to show some responsibility and common sense toward the fate of our country's people to prevent the catastrophe. The leaders of the regime must give the reasons for why they shed the blood of thousands of young men. Why did they continue this futile war for 8 years? Why did they postpone the acceptance of Resolution No 598 for 1 year? The continuation of the war is the most unforgivable crime of

Khomeyni and his ilk against the people of Iran. The people shall never forgive those who have been involved in imposing this painful catastrophe on the country.

O honorable people of Iran. Although the regime today, in its most abject condition, has submitted to the cease-fire resolution, it has not fully submitted to your will for full restoration of peace. Remain vigilant and by exerting greater pressure, you will prevent this sinister regime and the criminal Saddam from pouring missiles and mortars on the two countries' cities and villages. The slogan of peace is the most important and strongest slogan among the people in Iran.

We must struggle until a full and everlasting peace between the two countries is realized. We must not allow the regime to take advantage of Resolution No 598 as a means of repairing its war machine. A cease-fire must be declared immediately. We must expose and neutralize the regime's policy of taking a respite between battles.

O dear compatriots. The regime of the supreme jurisconsult is a regime without a future. Khomeyni, who has dragged our homeland into this economic and social misery, is frightened of his regime's future and is now trying to prop up his agents, such as Hashemi-Rafsanjani, in order to ensure the survival of his regime. Khomeyni, who burned our greatest national resources in furnace of war, has submitted to an armistice because he sees that to continue the war will mobilize more forces against him both within the country and in the world.

The CCFKIOMW stresses that the regime's acceptance of Resolution No 598 is a resounding victory for our people and all peace-loving forces of the world and a drastic retreat of the regime in the face of the people. We must celebrate this great victory and must use it as a strong lever for reaching a lasting peace. In this way we will be able to continue the struggle against this hated regime and to destroy it.

During the past 1 and ½ years, we repeatedly emphasized that the regime's resources were gradually diminishing and that it would be impossible for them to continue the war much longer. On this basis it was predicted that the regime would surrender to the people and would be almost incapable of continuing the war. They hastily announced the acceptance of the resolution because of the disasterous situation facing the regime, the transfer of power to Khomeyni's successor, and the tragic defeats on the front.

O patriotic people of Iran. There was a time when the aggressive regime ruling over Iraq was talking of Saddam's Qadisiyah [site of historic Persian defeat] and the insane regime of Khomeyni was talking of conquering Karbala' and Jerusalem. Thanks to the steadfastness and struggle of the two countries' people, and the role played by peace-loving international forums, particularly the United Nations, realism and wisdom eventually triumphed over war and aggression. This forced the corrupt regimes ruling both countries to stop their crimes and submit to UN Resolution No 598.

The course of events demonstrates that the United Nations can assume a more active role, and it should do so in resolving international disputes. The CCFKIOMW is actively supporting the UN secretary general and president of the Security Council in their efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war. The organization favors the continuation of the United Nation's efforts to restore peace between the two countries and resolve the dispute by diplomatic means.

O noble compatriots. We have always stressed that the military presence and intervention of U.S. imperialism and its NATO members in the Persian Gulf region will not only not help the peace process, but will fan the flames of tension and create more tragedies. A clear example of this was the tragic downing of Iran's airliner. Feda'i-ye Khalq call upon the United Nations and all other international forums and world governments to condemn U.S. violation of Resolution No 598, that is, the presence of the U.S. fleet in the Persian Gulf, and to apply pressure on the Reagan government to withdraw its forces from the region immediately.

O dear compatriots. Thanks to your steadfastness and your decisive support for terminating the war, the demon of war is on the brink of death. Feda'i-ye Khalq who believe that restoring peace is their most important national and patriotic duty are celebrating this great victory over Khomeyni's insane craving for war. We once again renew our strong pledge with the people of Iran to fight to their last drop of blood in order to liberate the suffering people of Iran.

O struggling compatriots. Be certain that just as you paved the grounds for peace today, you will pave the way for a prosperous Iran, a defender of peace, democracy, and independence by sending Khomeyni and his regime to their graves. Long live peace. Long live freedom. May the union among all the forces fighting for an independent, free, and democratic Iran become stronger. Down with the regime of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[Signed] The CCFKIOMW, 18 July 1988.

Nepal

Banned Party Leader, 150 Activists Released

BK2207073088 Hong Kong AFP in English 0715 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Kathmandu, July 22 (AFP)—A banned party leader and 150 activists were released Thursday night after being detained for attempting to mark the late prime minister's birthday, party sources said.

Ganesh Man Singh, leader of the outlawed Nepali Congress Party, and more than 150 supporters were arrested here Thursday afternoon while trying to plant samplings to commemorate the 74th anniversary of the birth of the late B.P. Koirala, the sources said.

The party had announced a week of activities beginning July 21, but authorities within and outside Kathmandu have intervened to block the activities.

More than 300 activists were arrested in other towns including Damauli, Syangja, Biratnagar and Dhulikhel, the party sources added.

Pakistan

Government To Hold Elections on Non-Party Basis

BK2107125088 Hong Kong AFP in English 1247 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Islamabad, July 21 (AFP)—President Muhammed Ziaul Haq Thursday announced that the planned Pakistani general election in November will be held on a non-party basis.

"The government has decided to hold the November 16 elections on a non-party basis," he told a news conference here.

He said he was not banning political parties, but would ensure the candidates are returned on the basis of individual qualifications.

General Zia said he expected no trouble concerning his decision as political leaders were apparently prepared for it.

President Explains Decision

BK2107162388 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has announced that the 16 November National Assembly and provincial assembly elections will be held on a non-party basis. Addressing a news conference in Islamabad this afternoon, he said the decision was made in the supreme national interest, keeping in mind the present situation.

[Begin Zia recording] The government, after considering all the circumstances, in the interest of the country and in accordance with its own judgment, has decided that the next general elections will be held on a non-party basis, not non-political. Today, the Constitution is in force, people's basic rights are upheld, and the courts are free.

In this context, because the parties have been mentioned in the Constitution—and they have been mentioned in a Supreme Court judgment as well—the parties will be allowed to function completely. There will be no [word indistinct] with them. What will happen is that the candidates will be elected on the basis of their individual qualifications and they will be assigned symbols according to existing laws.

And I expect that the parties—if they help candidates behind the scenes, send their workers out for them, or conduct publicity or propaganda for them according to law—will be allowed to do so. But, the elections will be partyless. The people will be given a chance to elect the candidates on the basis of their individual capabilities, abilities, and performances. [end recording]

The president said that the nation expects the candidates to adopt the principle of decency in politics and refrain from the politics of chaos. He said that although holding big rallies and demonstrations are not allowed under the Constitution, it is generally understood that all such activities are permitted under the basic rights provision. The president said that the candidates can hold general meetings, but the government will consider imposing restrictions on demonstrations. The government will also examine the question of fixing specific sites for election propaganda materials in order to keep posters from being put up everywhere.

The president said he hopes the political parties and those who are presenting themselves as tomorrow's leaders will forge discipline and unity in their ranks. He referred to the recent Supreme Court ruling which said that steps may be taken to check the activities of political parties if they harm the public order.

The president said that maintaining law and order will be the foremost priority. He expressed hope that every person, every political party, and every organization will ensure the maintenance of peace and order. He said it is the responsibility of the Election Commission to hold elections, and the entire administration will give the commission full cooperation in this task. If necessary, the help of the law enforcement agencies will be sought to maintain law and order.

The president emphasized that the people must look toward the future instead of confining themselves to the past. We should only learn from the past in order to move forward. He prayed to God to help the nation peacefully overcome the test of elections so that the country can become a real Islamic welfare state.

He reaffirmed his pledge that the elections will be completely free, fair, and neutral. He said he believes this will herald a new democratic era, and real, purposeful, and democratic traditions will be established in accordance with the aspirations of the country and nation.

President To Select Premier From Assembly

BK2107163088 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Excerpts] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has announced that elections for the national and provincial assemblies to be held on the 16th of November will be held on non-party basis. Addressing a crowded news conference in Islamabad today, he said the decision has been taken in the supreme national interest and after taking into consideration the present circumstances. [passage omitted]

Replying to a question, the president indicated that the limit of expenditure by each candidate will be raised to make it more realistic.

The president said he will nominate a member of the elected National Assembly for the prime minister's office as required by the Constitution.

Replying to another question, the president said he did not foresee any difficulty facing him to change the election date, including the Afghanistan situation. [passage omitted]

Election Commission Meets To Fix Priorities

BK2107162788 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] The Election Commission held a meeting in Islamabad and considered refixing and rescheduling the priorities of its functions for holding the next general elections, according to the schedule. The chief election commissioner, Mr S.A. Nusrat, presided over the meeting.

The commission decided to undertake fresh delimitation of constituencies on the basis of the 1981 census as its first priority. The timeframe for various stages of the process of delimitation of constituencies was approved in order to complete this nationwide exercise in the specified time. The commission will again meet again in Lahore on Saturday.

Ordinance Issued To Delimit Constituencies

BK2207023288 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] The president has promulgated the Election Constituencies Amendment Ordinance 1988 under which the delimitation of constituencies for the national and provincial assemblies will be undertaken on the basis of the 1981 census.

Delhi Notes 'Hostile Response' To Announcement

BK2207032888 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Political parties in Pakistan have given a generally hostile response to President Ziaul Haq's announcement of elections in November. The Pakistan People's Party leader, Mrs Benazir Bhutto, described the decision to postpone elections as an attempt to undermine the country's Constitution. She said the delay in elections till November will prevent a democratic government from coming to power and that the elections are not going to be fair.

Disagreement has also been expressed by some other opposition leaders, including the former prime minister, Mr Junejo, who described the president's action as running counter to the Constitution.

President Zia had announced yesterday that the elections to the national and provincial assemblies will be held on a non-party basis and political parties will be allowed to support candidates and hold public meetings. He, however, clarified that the political parties will not be allowed to take out processions.

Shi'ite Scholar Issues Statement on Hajj

NC2107103188 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that scholar (Arif Hussain Hussaini), leader of the Pakistani Shi'ites, issued a statement on the crimes perpetrated by the Saudi regime and said: At a time when the pilgrims to the house of God are preparing for their hajj duties, Muslim Iranian, Palestinian, and Lebanese brothers and sisters will not be attending these ceremonies. The Saudi regime has prevented Muslims from carrying out their hajj duties, contrary to what the Holy Koran states.

Another part of the statement says: Disavowing pagans and chanting slogans of "There Is Only One God," "Death to America," "Death to Israel," and "Death to the Soviet Union" are unfavorable for the Al Saud regime. The hajj ceremonies are under U.S. control and the Saudi regime is executing U.S. orders.

In conclusion, scholar (Hussaini) calls on all the people of Pakistan to participate in demonstrations against pagans and world arrogance on the 6th day of Dhu al-Hijjah [23 July], the day of disavowing pagans, and to commemorate the martyrs of Holy Mecca.

Defense Minister Speaks to Senate on Indian Arms

BK2107163888 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] The defense minister, Mr Mahmud A. Haroon, has said Pakistan would continue to pursue peace without ignoring the country's defense needs. Speaking on identical adjournment motions in the Senate on the acquisition of sophisticated arms and nuclear submarines by India, he said Pakistan is cognizant of the matter. It is not only a cause of worry for Pakistan, but also for the countries in the region. Pakistan has already told the world that introduction of these kinds of weapons is not helping to de-escalate the situation in South Asia.

The motions were moved in January last by Mr Mohammad Tariq Chowdhury, Maulana Kauser Niazi, and Professor Khurshid Ahmad. Five members took part in the discussion. They are Mr Javed Jabbar, Mr Hasne Shaikh, Akundzada Behrawar Sayed, Mr Jahangir Shah Jogezai, and Mr Tariq Chowdhury.

The house also admitted for discussion a number of adjournment motions by various members relating to the law and order situation in Sind. The house was adjourned to meet again on the 31st of this month.

JANG Urges Unity Against India in Kashmir

BK2107145888 Lahore JANG in Urdu
13 Jul 88 p 3

[Editorial: "Indian Oppression of Kashmiri Muslims"]

[Text] The working committee of the All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference has appealed to all freedom-loving nations of the world to exert political and moral pressure on India to stop it from carrying out oppression and genocide of Muslims in [Indian] occupied Kashmir. The meeting unanimously adopted a resolution condemning the steps taken by India through various means to transform the Muslim majority into a minority in occupied Kashmir. The resolution also demanded a solution to the Kashmir issue in accordance with the UN resolutions on it.

The need to draw the world community's attention to Indian oppression of the Muslims in occupied Kashmir will obviously remain until the Kashmiri Muslims are granted their right to self-determination. Therefore, the All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference resolution may be seen as a legitimate effort by the Kashmiri Muslims to regain their rights. The portion of the resolution that details the Indian plot to transform the Kashmiri Muslims into a minority deserves the particular attention of freedom-loving nations and world bodies like the United Nations.

In fact, India itself knows that its occupation of Kashmir is clearly unfair, illegal, and against all internationally accepted norms. This is why the Indian rulers have resorted to various means and methods to maintain their hold over Kashmir and to justify their "rights" since the day they took over the territory. At the very beginning, the first prime minister of India, the late Jawahar Lal Nehru, tried to justify Indian rights over this Muslim state by describing it as an "integral part of India." Simultaneously, India tried to give Kashmir the status of an Indian state or province and formally annex it.

Legally, the position of Kashmir will remain disputed until the question of its permanent status is settled in accordance with UN resolutions. The Indian rulers know that Kashmir is still on the UN agenda as an unresolved issue. And every effort to change the status of Kashmir, which lacks the support and concurrence of the recognized majority of Kashmiri people, can be termed illegal and unacceptable. Since the Indian rulers are not willing to grant the Kashmiri people their right to self-determination under any circumstance, they are engaged in maintaining their aggressive control over Kashmir by another means, while violating internationally accepted norms of human rights.

By this, we mean the plan which India is working on conspiratorily to transform the Muslim majority of Kashmir into a minority. On the one hand, the Kashmiri Muslims are being slaughtered on one pretext or the other. On the other hand, Hindus from every nook and corner of India are settling in Kashmir in a very organized manner. The purpose of this is that if at any time in the future India is forced to swallow the bitter pill of plebiscite in Kashmir, it can utilize the Hindu majority vote to justify Kashmir's annexation by India and prove its legality. Various Kashmiri leaders have time and again drawn attention to this serious fact.

But it is very regrettable to say that no systematic effort has been made to effectively expose this abominable Indian conspiracy. What we feel is that this is not a simple matter to be referred to occasionally in our speeches just to give them punch. A systematic and effective campaign should be launched to counter this conspiracy. And obviously, the resolution of the working committee of the All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference alone is not enough. All parties and leaders working for the rights of the Kashmiri Muslims will have to join hands in this regard.

The great objectives, such as freedom of a nation, cannot be achieved if we adhere to our individual viewpoints and programs and oppose each other. Although the effectiveness of propaganda cannot be denied in the present-day world, unity of forces working for a common objective is necessary to obtain results. Differences of opinion on petty issues before the ultimate objective is achieved lead to disintegration of the force, thereby pushing the goal farther away.

Every individual aspiring for the independence of Kashmir and the restoration of the Kashmiri people's rights should realize that appeals made individually from different platforms will not be heeded, even by nations championing the causes of fair play and justice. At the same time, the leaders interested in the independence of Kashmir should also keep in mind the bitter but solid fact that sometimes time also plays a key role in bringing about decisive changes. The Indian rulers are very carefully manipulating the differences among the Kashmiris as well as the time factor.

They have adopted the policy of keeping under their control some elements inside Kashmir—who sold their conscience—to fulfill their heinous objectives. India is carrying out its plans with utmost care and trickery to maintain its aggressive control over Kashmir. Under

these circumstances, it becomes imperative to implement a campaign, with full vigor and force, to inform the world community of India's unholy designs on and oppression of the Kashmiri Muslims.

Although the All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference resolution may be termed the first step in the right direction, the other Kashmiri Muslims should also join this move to regain the rights of the Kashmiri Muslims and to achieve the goal of independence for Kashmir.

Foreign Minister To Depart for U.S., USSR

BK2107154088 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan will leave Islamabad on Sunday [24 July] on a visit to the United States and the Soviet Union. During his week's stay in Washington, he will meet with U.S. Secretary of State Mr George Shultz, members of Congress, senators, and high U.S. officials.

Later, during his 3-day visit to Moscow, which begins on the 2d of next month, he will meet with his Soviet counterpart, Mr Shevardnadze, and other Soviet officials.

Sri Lanka

4 Killed, 12 Hurt in Hotel Bomb Explosion

BK2107125988 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1245 GMT 21 Jul 88

["OANA/pool" Item]

[Text] Colombo, July 21 (LANKAPUVATH)—Three civilians and a policeman were killed and 12 civilians wounded when a terrorist bomb exploded inside a hotel near the market at Trincomalee town this morning. Official sources told LANKAPUVATH that the identities of the civilians killed were not yet known.

However, the dead policeman had been identified as Reserve Police Constable Sunil Shantha. One of the civilians wounded in the bomb explosion at the Bandul Ba Bandula Hotel, Trincomalee, at 1000 hours local time, Wijedasa, was reported in a critical condition and rushed to the government hospital at Anuradhapura for emergency surgery.

'Terrorist' Activities Roundup Reported

BK2007103888 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1000 GMT 20 Jul 88

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, July 20 (LANKAPUVATH)—As the IPKF [Indian PeaceKeeping Force] intensified its operations in northern and eastern Sri Lanka, two hardcore LTTE terrorists were killed and one apprehended by Indian troops yesterday.

Official sources told LANKAPUVATH today that one hardcore terrorist, Puttutambi, alias Mani, was killed and one IPKF soldier was wounded during an encounter in Muruthamulai in Batticaloa.

Two hand grenades and one AK-47 rifle magazine with 21 rounds of ammunition were recovered in the same area.

In Vavuniya, one hardcore terrorist was killed and 2 hand grenades were recovered from his possession.

One hardcore terrorist, Thayagaraja was captured by Indian troops in Arapattai in the Batticaloa sector.

Official sources said that a single girder railway bridge between Vavuniya and Puliyankulam in the north had been blasted by terrorists at 2130 hours (local time) Sunday.

They said that no trains can proceed beyond this point. Action is being taken to effect necessary repairs.

One LTTE terrorist was wounded in an exchange of fire with the IPKF in Oddusudan.

A report from the Trincomalee sector states that Indian troops fired at terrorists who were attempting to set off improvised explosive devices (IED) at Kuchchaveli. Three hand grenades, 2 electric switches and some Cordex were recovered by the IPKF.

Meanwhile, cash and jewellery valued at rupees 152,573 were robbed by northern terrorists.

In the Ampara District unidentified armed terrorists had robbed cash, jewelery, clothes and food valued at rupees 81,153 in Galmaduwa.

A report from Kantalai states that gunmen robbed cash rupees 70,000 from a boutique.

In Batticaloa, eight armed youth had entered a house in Kalawanchikudy, threatened the inmates and robbed 5 radios, 1 battery charger, food items and cash.